



GSA International and Interdisciplinary Interest Group (IIIG): 2016 Annual Newsletter

Executive Summary:

The 2016 National GSA meeting marks the second full year of GSA International, and the first full year of the International Interdisciplinary Interest Group (IIIG). We have a newly formed IIIG committee and a growing membership base. We have established a GSA International/ IIIG Facebook page to reach out to new and younger IIIG members. We have continued to move forward with International awards and had the opportunity to recommend talented scientists to GSA council for the Honorary Fellow Awards, International Travel Grant Awards, Farouk El Baz student award recipients and the GSA International Distinguished Lecturers. As in the past with the international section and division, an important goal of GSA International is to help facilitate international meetings. Specifically GSAI is heavily committed in planning the combined GSA and GSAfrica meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in March of 2017. Meeting that are in the conception stage include a Penrose/Thompson field forum conference in Chile and a potential Thompson field forum in Cuba.

Going forward, GSA International and IIIG seek your assistance/suggestion to establish a sound membership base for effective operation, allowing greater scientific communication, and reaching milestone in terms of sponsoring/hosting international meetings, field trips, distinguished lecturers, and students' participation in national/international meetings. A solid membership base will be the cornerstone in this endeavor; however individual or societal contribution to this cause will enable GSA International and IIIG to jointly function as a geoscientific entity where assimilation of great minds can diversify, globalize and create partnerships to foster our ideas and promote deep understanding and appreciation of global geology and bond us together.

Reminder to all of the GSA attendees:

GSA International Reception, to be held on Sept. 26, 2016 from 5.30 to 7.30 pm

Hyatt Regency Denver at CCC, Centennial Ballroom F

PLEASE visit our International Booth #132, will be located inside the EXHIBIT area and be part of the International Interdisciplinary Interest Group (IIIG).

International Interdisciplinary Interest Group (IIIG):

Since GSA in Baltimore, we have been compiling the list of interested names that were generated at both the Vancouver and Baltimore GSA meetings, previous section members of the international section and the founding members of the IIIG that were distributed to council at the 2015 November meeting. We drafted a "welcome to the IIIG" letter that was sent out to all of these contacts and indicated how they can register to be a member of the IIIG. This combined potential membership base is close to 2000 GSA members. We are inviting as many IIIG members as can participate to attend a town hall meeting/ international reception at the Denver GSA. Our hope is to generate a list of names of people who are capable and *interested* in populating both the GSA International committee and future IIIG positions with GSA members that have a vision of how they can help contribute.

Welcome Letter from the IIIG

Dear Esteemed Colleague and founding member of the GSA IIIG

Please officially join International Interdisciplinary Interest Group (IIIG)!

GSA International officially made its debut in December of 2014. This new entity is directly associated with the GSA, and seeks to expand GSA's international vision, reach and service. GSA International has replaced previous renditions of international groups associated with GSA (such as the International Section or the International Division). The membership body of GSA International is the IIIG (International Interdisciplinary Interest Group), which became fully operational fall of 2015 at GSA's national meeting in Baltimore. Our hopes are that the new IIIG will create and enhance opportunities for international



collaboration, provide a forum for science and policy discussions that are International in scope and relevance through the Connected Community platform and promote international meetings, topical sessions, field workshops, the exchanges of visiting scholars/lecturers and other GSA global activities.

We hope this new initiative encourages active involvement of not only GSA members who are living outside north America but also encourages participation of a greater number of north American scientists who have significant international research, educational or business components. This restructuring of the International section into GSA International more fully reflects GSA's growing international opportunities and influence. We strongly encourage you to officially join GSA IIIG by marking IIIG on the GSA [membership renewal by following the link](#), and join us for the first IIIG town hall meeting and GSA International awards program this fall at the national meeting in Denver. What GSA International becomes is up to you and we look forward to ideas and suggestions about how to move this dynamic group forward.

Truly yours,

Nazrul I. Khandaker and Nadine McQuarrie

GSA International Facebook

New members of the IIIG Management board are Chelsea Mackaman-Lofland (graduate student at University of Texas Austin) as the **Student Liaison** and [Chris Spencer](#) (Research Fellow Curtin University, Australia) as the **Community Administrator**. One of Chris' major tasks was to create an active Facebook page for the IIIG and GSA International and we are glad to report back to GSA that it is up running and already getting hits and postings from the overseas attendees.



<https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=gsa%20international>

The International Interdisciplinary Interest Group of the Geological Society of America fosters opportunities for international collaboration in geoscience. The Purpose of GSA International is to: connect, create, and enhance opportunities for international cooperation.

Chris Spencer, Community Administrator

2016-2017 GSA Thompson International Distinguished Lecturers

The 2016 GSA Thompson International Lecture Tours are made possible through a gift to the GSA Foundation by James B. Thompson, Jr., whose bequest contributed to the endowment of two lecture tours by distinguished geologists, one a non-North American scientist to tour academic and related institutions within North America, and the other a North American scientist to tour foreign universities and geological institutions. Both tours are arranged under the guidance of GSA International. The GSA International committee selected [Terry Plank](#) (Lamont Doherty Earth Observatory) as the outgoing speaker and [Christopher Jackson](#) (Imperial College) as the incoming speaker based on their clear qualifications as scientists as well as their dynamic and clear public speaking.

Terry Plank



Arthur D. Storke

Terry Plank is a geochemist working literally at the edge of phenomena shaping the Earth's crust. Her research focuses on what happens when tectonic plates collide, forcing one under the other at a subduction zone. Because these collisions generate tremendous heat, they are frequently associated with volcanoes, which Plank uses as a window to the chemical and physical forces deep below the surface. In early work, she analyzed trace metals in deep core samples from rock entering a subduction zone and compared them with magma ejected from associated volcanoes, finding that the magma unexpectedly includes materials from the subducted crust, rather than exclusively new rock formed from the Earth's mantle. More recently, she has demonstrated that the chemical composition of volcanic rocks reveals the temperature at the point of rock formation, where the subduction plate intersects the mantle. These data are essential for accurate modeling of tectonic geophysics. Furthermore, her observations of certain volcanic minerals that trap water demonstrate the critical role they play in the geochemistry of rock formation at subduction zones (it is water and other volatiles that account for the volcanic explosions) Though the motion of tectonic plates triggers some of the Earth's greatest spectacles—earthquakes, pyroclastic lava flows, geysers, etc.—the science of plate tectonics is still in its early stages. With painstaking fieldwork, careful analysis, and profound insight, Plank is uncovering details about the complex interplay of thermal and chemical forces that drives this usually imperceptible but remarkably powerful natural force.



Memorial Professor
Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory

Terry Plank received an A.B. (1985) from Dartmouth College and a Ph.D. (1993) from Columbia University. Since 2008, she has been a professor in the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences and the Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory at Columbia University. Her prior affiliations include the University of Kansas (1995–1999) and Boston University (1999–2007), and her scientific articles have appeared in such journals as *Nature*, the *Journal of Geophysical Research*, and *Nature Geoscience*, among others.

Dr. Christopher Jackson



The Basins Research Group (BRG) at Imperial College London focuses on the geodynamic, structural, and stratigraphic evolution of sedimentary basins. This range of activities is centered around a multidisciplinary group of Earth Scientists who are committed to understanding the fundamental geological processes operating in evolving sedimentary basins, and the application of this understanding to determining the nature, origin and occurrence of natural resources. His current research is focused in three main areas; (i) tectono-stratigraphic evolution of extensional basins; (ii) structural and stratigraphic development of salt basins; and (iii) dynamic subsurface processes.

Imperial College
Faculty of Engineering, Department of Earth Science & Engineering
Professor of Basin Analysis

Evolving fault segments, arrays and fault-related folds may impact accommodation development in extensional basin and, as a result, facies variations in and the sequence stratigraphy of coeval syn-rift strata. Conversely, because syn-rift facies distributions vary in response to the evolving structural template, they may provide important information on the temporal and spatial evolution of rift-related structures. Jackson utilizes both traditional fieldwork techniques and seismic data to understand fundamental structural and stratigraphic processes in rifts. At present, Jackson's research is focused on rifts that have experienced multiple phases of deformation (i.e. polyphase rifts) and those that have been influenced by salt in the pre-rift mechano-stratigraphic template (i.e. salt-influenced rifts).

GSA International Honorary Fellow Award

GSA International's Honorary Fellowship is presented to an international geoscientist who has distinguished him- or herself in geoscience investigations, promoting environmental awareness, linking science and society, providing notable service to implementing public policy in natural resource managements, or otherwise making outstanding



contributions to science. The program was instituted by GSA council in 1909 and since then one or two Honorary Fellows have been nominated each year. The former International Section started presenting the award at GSA International's reception at the 2012 GSA Annual Meeting in Charlotte, North Carolina. However with the creation of GSA international, the award returned to being a Society level award with GSA International evaluating the nominations and making recommendations to Council

The GSA International committee evaluated the nominations and voted on the Honorary Fellow Award. The nomination that stood out above and beyond all of the other nominations was Dr. Bor-Ming Jahn from the National Taiwan University. Thus he is the sole name that we recommended to Council to be given the Honorary Fellow Award this year.

Jahn, Bor-Ming

Distinguished Chair Professor, National Taiwan University (09/2010 – - present)



1. General: Geochronology, isotope and trace element geochemistry.
2. Applications of geochemical and isotopic techniques to various petrogenetic and tectonic studies, such as, characterization and evolution of the upper mantle, development of the continental crust, petrogeneses of magmatic rocks (komatiites, basalts and granitoids), geochemistry of Archean sedimentary rocks and evolution of Archean cratons, origin of ultrahigh-pressure eclogites and implications for tectonic evolution of continental collision zones, geochemical characterization of loess-paleosol sequences and paleoclimatic implications, carbonate U-Pb dating and sedimentary geochronology, granite petrogenesis and growth of the continental crust, continental subduction and exhumation of ultra-high pressure metamorphic rocks.
3. Recent interests - (1) Phanerozoic crustal growth in the Central Asian Orogenic Belt and the northern part of the Arabian-Nubian Shield, (2) Geochemical and petrological study of the UHP metamorphic terranes from China, with implications for continental subduction, exhumation and recycling, (3) Geochemistry of loess deposits and implications for paleoclimatic changes, and global geochemical budget of the upper continental crust.

Farouk El Baz Student Awards:

The award is given annually for an outstanding body of work in the field of desert research. For the purposes of the award, the term "desert" is restricted to warm deserts rather than polar deserts. "The award is intended to encourage young scientists to strive for excellence in desert research," said Dr. El-Baz, "Desert landforms have not received as much attention by geologists as other types of landforms," he added " we need to encourage and reward arid land studies." Any scientist may be nominated for this award, and applicants need not be geologists or U.S. citizens.

There were several strong contenders for the Farouk El Baz student awards (16 applied). We based the awards on the ones that represented the goal of the award, contained a strong, scientific argument for the research, and were complete. The Farouk El-Baz student awards went to [Elena Favaro](#) (University of Calgary) and [Christine Chen](#) (MIT).



“I am interested in bridging the gap between Planetary Scientists and Geomorphologists when it comes to identifying and investigating bedrock-abraded aeolian (wind) abraded features on Earth and Mars. My field work is undertaken in the high altitude arid deserts of Northwestern Argentina, where the landscape is dominated by bedrock-abraded landforms like yardangs and periodic bedrock ridges. The goal of my research is to relate the processes and mechanisms by which these and other landforms are initiated, develop, and evolve on Earth to morphologically similar landforms on Mars.” Elena Favaro

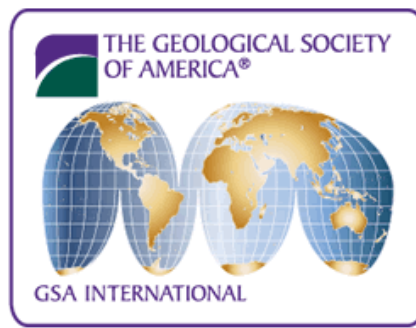


“Greetings! My name is **Christine**, and I am currently a PhD student in the MIT-WHOI Joint Program and a member of David McGee's group. I am broadly interested in the history of Earth's climate, and I use field geology, geochronology, and modeling to reconstruct past changes in Earth's hydrological cycle, particularly from lacustrine archives. Presently, I am reconstructing spatial and temporal patterns of water balance change throughout the late-Pleistocene in the Atacama and Altiplano regions of the central Andes (21-27°S) by creating multiple well-dated records of paleolake level variations. By piecing together the history of lake level variations through careful mapping of paleoshorelines, U-Th dating of massive shoreline tufa deposits, and water balance modeling, we can extract quantitative estimates of past hydroclimate change that can place constraints on past atmospheric circulation patterns via multimodel-multiproxy comparisons.” Christine Chen

2016 GSA International Travel Grant Award

Over 150 professionals/students applied for the 2016 travel grants and based on our limited resources only 15 were selected to receive awards to travel to Denver meeting (Table 1). Established criteria included diverse geographic distribution, evidence of low income countries (based on United Nation's rubric), ability to present oral/poster at the annual meeting, current status (students were preferred over professionals), etc.

| Name | Country of Origin | Professional/Student | Abstract Title |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|--|
| <u>Jullieta Lum</u> | Cameron | Student | Mineralogical and geochemical characteristics of southern African Beryls |
| <u>Onema Adojoh</u> | Nigeria | Student | Dynamic evolutionary model of the Late Quaternary depositional sequences from the coastal margin of the Niger Delta |
| <u>Natalie Robinson</u> | Jamaica | Student | Larger Foraminifera from the Platform Margin of Jamaica during the Eocene |



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|--|-------------------|--------------|--|
| <u>Cajetan Geiger</u> | Germany | Student | <i>Progress of geoarchaeological work on two medieval silver mines at the Monte Calisio Plateau, Northern Italy</i> |
| <u>Karol Faehnrich</u> | Poland | Student | Mass transfer of major elements during metasomatism of metapelites - a case study from Spitsbergen |
| <u>Monika Singh</u> | India | Student | PETROGRAPHIC AND GEOCHEMICAL STUDIES OF GRANITOIDS AROUND THE NEO-ARCHEAN GADAG GOLD FIELD, SOUTHERN INDIA. IMPLICATION TO THE SOURCE OF AURIFEROUS ORE FLUIDS |
| <u>Victor Vincent</u> | Nigeria | Student | <i>Trace Element Distribution in Copper-bearing sandstone in Azara Northcentral Nigeria</i> |
| <u>Maria Diletta</u> | Italy | Student | Regional Probabilistic Landslide Hazard Assessment for the Enguri Hydroelectric Dam |
| | | | |
| <u>Yirang Jang</u> | Republic of Korea | Student | Lateral variations in thrust developments along the Central Alberta Foothills, Canada |
| <u>Gabriela Salomao</u> | Brazil | Student | Tectonic and stratigraphic evolution of the Horizonte and Paripueira evaporites in the Sergipe-Alagoas Basin, NE Brazil, and its implications in the South Atlantic opening |
| <u>Semih Can Ulgen</u> | Turkey | Student | The thin-skinned deformation of a passive continental margin: a case study for the Istanbul Palaeozoic sequence |
| <u>Muhammad-Qumrul Hassan</u> | Bangladesh | Professional | Global Climate Change and its Effects on Hydro-geo-environment in the Bangladesh Coastal Belts |
| <u>Despainge Diaz</u> | Cuba | Professional | Structural Geology of the Late Cretaceous-Paleogene collision of Cuba and North America: The Escambray accretionary complex, Central Cuba |
| <u>Jazmin del Valle Soledad Menedez</u> | Argentina | Professional | Características petrológicas y geoquímicas del complejo Uvita III mina de Jade Sierra de Fiambala Catamarca/Argentina- Jazmin Menendez y Graciela Cordoba |



| | | | |
|---------------------------------------|------|--------------|--|
| <u>Yamirka Rojas-Agramonte</u> | Cuba | Professional | Early Cretaceous to Paleogene Arc Rocks of Cuba |
|---------------------------------------|------|--------------|--|

Future International meetings:

GSA and GSAfrica meeting March of 2017:

Nadine McQuarrie and Vicki McConnell have been working together with Prof. Aberra Mogessie (President of the Geological Society of Africa), Dr. Asfawossen Asrat (Associate Professor, School of Earth Sciences, Addis Ababa University) and Dr. Girma Woldetinsae (Director of R&D, Ministry of Mines, Addis Ababa) to establish Scientific and Technical Committees for the combined GSA-GSAf meeting. The meeting, *Geological Evolution of Africa: Making and Breaking of a Continent*, held at the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa Headquarters Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, Africa on March 13th -17th, 2017. The scientific committee consists of the previously mentioned members of GSA and GSAf and GSA members Cindy Ebinger and Ramon Arrowsmith. The scientific committee has selected and invited colleagues for the technical committee/ session chairs.

Preliminary technical program:

Geological Evolution of Africa: Making and Breaking of a Continent.

THEME 1. LITHOSPHERIC STRUCTURE AND GEODYNAMICS

Session Chairs: Atalay Ayele, Addis Ababa University, Rob Evans, WHOI, Tyrone Rooney, Michigan State University

THEME 2. THE ARCHEAN LITHOSPHERE

Session 2.1. Craton Formation and Destruction

Session Chairs: Maarten de Wit, Nelson Mandela University

2.2 Greenstone belts

Session Chairs: Axel Hofmann, University of Johannesburg, South Africa, Shukrani Many, University Dar es Salaam

THEME 3. THE PAN AFRICAN EVENT

Session 3.1. Nature and Significance of the Pan-African Orogeny

Session Chairs: Bob Tucker, University of Maryland, Mr. Tadesse Alemu, Addis Ababa University

Session 3.2. Evolution of the Arabian Nubian Shield

Session Chairs: Nicholas L. Swanson-Hysell, University of California Berkley, Bisrat Yibas, Council for Geoscience, Environmental Geoscience Unit, South Africa, Mulugeta Alene, School of Earth Sciences, Addis Ababa University,



Asfawossen Asrat, School of Earth Sciences, Addis Ababa University

THEME 4. AFRICAN PALEOZOIC – MESOZOIC SEDIMENTARY BASINS

Session 4.1. African Paleozoic – Mesozoic Sedimentary Basins

Session Chairs: Balemwal Atnafu, Addis Ababa University, Ali Eisawi, School of Applied Earth Sciences, Al Neelain University, Sudan.

THEME 5. THE GREAT EAST AFRICAN RIFT SYSTEM

Session 5.1. The Volcano-tectonic Evolution of the Great East African Rift System

Session Chairs: Bekele Abebe, Addis Ababa University, Gezahegn Yirgu, Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia, Kevin Mickus, Missouri State University

Session 5.2. Active Tectonics and Magmatism

Session Chairs: Christelle Wauthier, Pennsylvania State University, Becky Bendick, University of Montana, Atalay Ayele, Addis Ababa University

Session 5.3. Earthquakes and Volcanic Hazards

Session Chairs: Atalay Ayele, Addis Ababa University, George Tuluka Mavonga, Goma Volcano Observatory, Vungunai Midzi, Council for Geosciences, S Africa, Nicolas d'Oreye, ECGS, Luxembourg (pending)

Session 5.4. East African Climate during the Period of Hominin Evolution (Special Session of the The Hominin Sites and Palaeolakes Drilling Project - HSPDP)

Session Chairs: Asfawossen Asrat, Addis Ababa University, Ramon Arrowsmith, Arizona State University, Michael McGlue, University of Kentucky

THEME 6. AFRICAN GEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Session 6.1. Mineral Resources

Session Chairs: Olugbenga Okunlola, University of Ibadan, François T. Lubala, Université de Lubumbashi, Aberra Mogessie, Karl-Franzens University of Graz, Girma Woldetinsae, Ministry of Mines, Ethiopia.

Session 6.2. Geothermal Resources

Session Chairs: Abdourahman Omar Haga, Ministry of Energy, Djibouti Republic, Gezahegn Yirgu, School of Earth Sciences, Addis Ababa University, Jim Faulds, Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology, University of Nevada, Reno (pending)

Session 6.3. Hydrocarbon Resources

Session Chairs: Olugbenga A. Boboye, Department of Geology, University of Ibadan, Nigeria;



Session 6.4. Groundwater Resources

Session Chairs: Seifu Kebede, School of Earth Sciences, Addis Ababa University, Tenalem Ayenew, School of Earth Sciences, Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia

THEME 7. AFRICAN GEOHERITAGE

Session 7.1. Geoheritages, Geoconservation and Geotourism in Africa

Session Chairs: Asfawossen Asrat, Addis Ababa University, Aberra Mogessie, Karl-Franzens University of Graz, Ezzroua Errami, Chouaïb Doukkali University, Morocco, Ghislain Zangmo Tefogoum, University of Maroua, Cameroon

THEME 8: EARTH SCIENCE EDUCATION IN AFRICA

Session 8.1. Challenges and Opportunities in Earth Science Education in Africa (Special Session of the African Network of Earth Science Institutions – ANESI)

OPEN SESSION

Session chair: Dr. Girma Woldetinsae, Ministry of Mines, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

POTENTIAL KEYNOTE THEMES

Evolution of the East African Rift:

Geohazards in the East African Rift:

Hominin evolution and Climate in East Africa:

Geothermal Resources in Africa:

Penrose/ Thompson field forum conference in Chile:

Suzanne Kay, in collaboration with Constantino Mpodozis is spearheading a combined GSA and Geological Society of Chile Penrose and Thompson Field Forum. The tentative name is “March of the Arcs” and examines the eastern Pacific Cretaceous to Recent volcanic arcs in space and time. Big eruptions and earthquakes can be considered. The possible location is Copiapó Chile with a field trip across all of the post Paleozoic Central Andean arcs starting in Copiapó and ending in Chanaral. The potential time for the conference could be mid-November of 2017. The trip would pass near the San Jose Mine where the famous 2010 mine collapse occurred and the miners were rescued by drilling more than 2000 meters down.

Thompson field forum conference in Cuba:

Recent policy changes in US-Cuban relations has opened up a unique window of opportunity for a combine GSA Geological Society of Cuba field forum in Cuba. Robert Stern (University of Texas Dallas) proposed a



collaborative session between GSA and the Cuban Geological Society at the Denver GSA in 2016. GSAI recommended that proposing a Pardee Symposium with key US and International speakers, particularly invited speakers from Cuba, would provide the most research and most advertising for the collaborative session. The Pardee Symposium was applied to (Bob Stern taking the lead) and the symposium was selected for the Denver GSA. This support will help provide money to support travel for critical speakers from Cuba and it will also provide a forum after the talks to gather the interested community together to discuss how to logistically and scientifically create a Thompson field forum in Cuba.

2015 International Lecturers Completing their tours

Stefano Lugli, Ph.D.



University of Modena e Reggio Emilia, Italy

Stefano Lugli is a Professor of Geology at the University of Modena e Reggio Emilia, Italy. His recent projects regard the geology of evaporite deposits and the geoarcheology of ancient sites. He has authored or co-authored more than 50 peer-reviewed professional articles on a wide range of topics involving evaporite and travertine sedimentology, petrography and geochemistry (China, Greece, Cyprus, Italy, Israel, Spain), the archeometry of Roman mosaics and historic building (including Pompeii in Italy, Greece and Jordan) and the geoarcheology of buried sites since the Bronze Age (including the Medieval World Heritage UNESCO site of Modena).

Professor Lugli is currently planning a tour of Northeastern Universities in the month of November and Pacific Northwestern Universities during the months of April or May 2016.

Lisa L. Ely, Ph.D.



Central Washington University, USA

Lisa L. Ely is a Professor in the Department of Geological Sciences at Central Washington University, where she has been a faculty member since 1994. She received her B.S. from Principia College in Illinois (1982); M.S. and Ph.D. from the University of Arizona (1992); and an NSF Post-doc at Pennsylvania State University (1992-94). Dr. Ely's research interests are in Quaternary Geology and Geomorphology, specifically fluvial geomorphology, tsunami deposits, paleoflood hydrology, and catastrophic events. Some of her recent research projects include tsunami deposits in Chile and India, long-term links between climate change and large floods, bedrock canyon evolution, geomorphic effects of natural and man-made dams, and sediment transport processes in gravel-bed rivers. As a member of the Geological Society of America, she has served as Division Chair and on the



Management Board of the Quaternary Geology and Geomorphology Division, as well as on several award and program planning committees. Professor Ely is currently planning a lecture tour that includes South American universities in Chile, Ecuador, and Peru in November 2015; and a second tour to Mexico, central America and the Caribbean in April or May 2016.

[More about Dr. Ely in July 2016 GSA Today.](#)

GSA International

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Photo Gallery: 2015 GSA International & IIIG-hosted Reception

Baltimore, Maryland, USA



Exchanging information at the Happy Hour hosted by the GSA International. 2015 GSA Annual Meeting, Baltimore, Maryland, USA



Dr. Chan (University of Utah) GSA International's Distinguished Lecturer (2014) conversing with Dr. An Yin (GSA International). 2015 GSA Annual Meeting, Baltimore, Maryland, USA



Dr. Nadine McQuarrie is presenting a plaque to GSA International's Distinguished Lecturer Dr. Stefano Lugli (Italy). 2015 GSA Annual Meeting, Baltimore, Maryland, USA



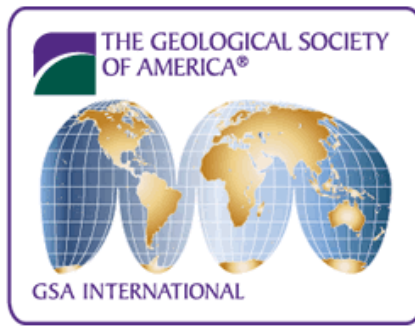
Dr. S. Dong, Chinese Academy of Sciences and Honorary GSA Fellow presenting a brief talk on SinoProbe at the GSA International-hosted reception. An innovative way to learn about the transition between the lower crust and upper mantle. 2015 GSA Annual Meeting, Baltimore, Maryland, USA



Dr. Anke Friedrich (past President, GSA International Section) chatting with international participants. 2015 GSA Annual Meeting, Baltimore, Maryland, USA



GSA International's travel grants awardees (Dr. Bishal Upreti, 2nd from the left, Dr. Andrew Scott, 3rd from the left, and Dr. Soma Baranwal, 4th from the left) were greeted by GSA International's management board members and distinguished guests. 2015 GSA Annual Meeting, Baltimore, Maryland, USA



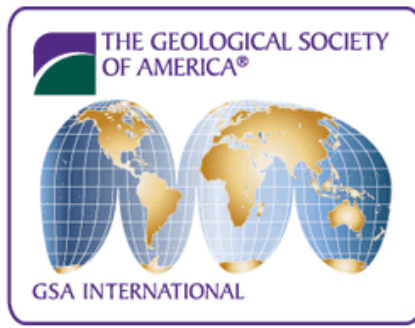
**2015 GSA Annual Meeting,
Baltimore, Maryland, USA**



**Dr. An Yin (UCLA and GSA
International Representative) greeting
international attendees at the Happy
Hour. 2015 GSA Annual Meeting,
Baltimore, Maryland, USA**



**Dr. Jack Hess (left, past Executive
Director, GSA) and Dr. An Yin (right)
having a conversation during the
GSA-GSC sponsored Climate Change
Presentation given by Dr. James
Hansen. 2015 GSA Annual Meeting,
Baltimore, Maryland, USA**



Keynote speaker Dr. James Hansen at the GSA-GSC (Geological Society of China) sponsored luncheon presentation. 2015 GSA Annual Meeting, Baltimore, Maryland, USA



GSA International representatives (1st from the right: Nadine McQuarrie, 2nd from the right: Nazrul Khandaker and 4th from the right: Dr. J.G. Liou, past Vice President, GSA International Section) with visiting overseas colleague Dr. Zheng (1st from the left). Dr. Bor-ming Jahn (3rd from the right) is GSA International's current (2016) Honorary Fellow. 2015 GSA Annual Meeting, Baltimore, Maryland, USA



Dr. Vicki McConnell (Executive Director, GSA) is enjoying international reception with overseas attendees. 2015 GSA Annual Meeting, Baltimore, Maryland, USA



Jam-packed international reception with a close to hundred geoscientists from home and abroad. 2015 GSA Annual Meeting, Baltimore, Maryland, USA



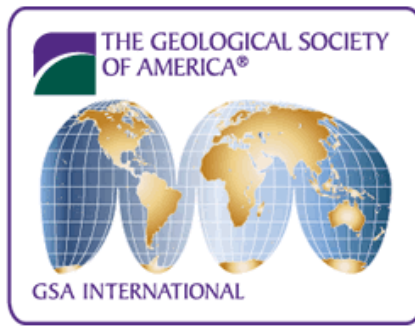
Dr. Vicki McConnell (Executive Director, Geological Society of America) welcoming international participants. 2015 GSA Annual Meeting, Baltimore, Maryland, USA



Dr. Alan Smith (Cambridge University, UK) – past GSA International Section President renewed his friendship with his known acquaintances and greeted newcomers. 2015 GSA Annual Meeting, Baltimore, Maryland, USA



Front row (from the left, past GSA International Section Vice-President Dr. I-Ming Chou enjoying the reception with his wife. 2015 GSA Annual Meeting, Baltimore, Maryland, USA



Dr. Nadine McQuarrie, current President of GSA International, addressing attendees at the reception. 2015 GSA Annual Meeting, Baltimore, Maryland, USA



Dr. Jonathan G. Price, President of Geological Society of America, having a good time at the reception. 2015 GSA Annual Meeting, Baltimore, Maryland, USA