Greetings:

Recently, I have been thinking about the role that professional societies and organizations such as GSA play. In doing so, I am reminded of the first day of my high school biology class. The teacher started the class by asking us the following question: “What is the most important thing in science?” Even to a bunch of skeptical high school students, this question became quite intriguing and generated much discussion. The teacher let the discussion go on for quite awhile without giving away his answer to this question, and needless to say, nobody figured it out. His answer was a simple, one-word answer: “communication”. I guess the reason I remember this incident so well is that the answer was so unexpected to us, at that time. Years later, when I became a scientist, I remembered what this wise teacher had said, and I realized he was right.

Without communication, the advancement of science would be brought to a near-standstill. Most scientific professional societies have a “Mission Statement” and establish a set of goals based on that statement. GSA’s Mission Statement is right on the front page of their web site: “The mission of GSA is to advance the geosciences, to enhance the professional growth of its members, and to promote the geosciences in the service of humankind”. This is an excellent mission statement, and it is certainly in line with the general idea of communication. I believe that the fundamental purpose of scientific professional societies is “to promote communication among scientists and engineers, and to help convey the findings of science and engineering to the general public”.

The primary way that GSA fulfills the job of promoting communication is through professional meetings and the publication of journals. With this purpose in mind, we can ask ourselves how good a job we are doing in GSA, and in the Hydrogeology Division in particular. In my opinion, we are doing a good job, but we can do better. I believe that our Division is on a cusp, or perhaps at a juncture, where there are some great things going on, but there are some areas that need improvement. The scientific content and quality of our meetings has gotten better every year throughout the ‘90s, and I have every reason to believe that trend will continue. The size of our annual meeting has now reached the point where we have at least a few concurrent sessions, forcing people to make a choice. This is good, and brings us into the same league as the Fall AGU meeting. However, the cusp that we are on is that we don’t quite have the attendance to properly fill the meeting rooms for our sessions. It would be great if, in a couple of years, a major topic of discussion at the Division business meeting would be: “How do we get more space for our program? The meeting rooms are so full that people can’t get in to hear the talks”.

How do we create such a happy problem for our Division? In real estate, the answer is “location, location, location”. For the Division, I think the answer is “students, students, students”. The Division already has in place a number of programs aimed at students that have been very successful in attracting students to the annual meeting. I’m not sure what else we could do at the annual meeting to attract and keep students. So the main area for potential growth is at home. One idea that has been very successful for the American Water Resources Association (AWRA) is the formation of student chapters. In our program at the University of Nevada, Reno, the model works like this: the students form a chapter that is officially sponsored and monitored by AWRA. They do a variety of things to make money for their treasury, such as working concession stands at football games. They use the money from their treasury
to sponsor students to go to national meetings (not just AWRA) and to go on group field trips. The whole thing promotes awareness among the students of the value of professional societies and scientific meetings. I would like to see discussion about this idea, and any others that people may have, at the Management Board meetings this fall and at the Division business meeting after the awards luncheon.

On a final note, the Division Technical Program Chairman, Bob Ritzi, has a truly outstanding program planned for the Reno meeting, and I urge you to read about it in this issue, and plan now to submit an abstract, come to the meeting, and communicate with your colleagues.

Visit our web site at http://www.uakron.edu.geology/gsahydro

News & Notes

Ingebritsen to serve as Birdsall-Dreiss Lecturer

Steve Ingebritsen has been selected as the 2001 Birdsall-Dreiss Lecturer. Steve received a BA degree in Geology from Carleton College and MS and Ph.D. degrees in Hydrogeology from Stanford University. He has been a member of the USGS since 1980 and is currently Chief of the Branch of Regional Research, Water Resources Division, Western Region. He is author, with Ward Sanford, of the textbook Groundwater in Geologic Processes (Cambridge University Press, 1998). Steve will offer two talks. The first describes an ongoing study of crustal permeability done in collaboration with Prof. Craig Manning of UCLA, a metamorphic petrologist. The second relates to a recent U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Circular on land subsidence, done

in collaboration with Devin Galloway, David Jones, and many others. To arrange a lecture, contact Dr. Ingebritsen directly (Ph. 650-329-4422, Fax 650-329-4463, seingeb@usgs.gov)

The Permeability of the Continental Crust -- The variation in permeability with depth in the crust can be probed indirectly with (1) hydrologic models that use geothermal data as constraints and (2) the progress of metamorphic reactions driven by fluid flow. These data indicate that, in orogenic belts, $\log k = -14 - 3.2 \log z$, where $k$ is in meters squared and $z$ is in km. This relation implies that typical metamorphic fluid-flux values are consistent with fluid pressures significantly above hydrostatic values; that the metamorphic carbon-dioxide flux may be sufficient to affect climate; and that there is a significant capacity for diffuse degassing of Earth in tectonically active regions.

Land Subsidence in the United States -- From the San Francisco Bay Delta to the Florida Everglades and from upstate New York to Houston, illustrative case studies describe three basic mechanisms by which human manipulation of groundwater causes land subsidence: groundwater withdrawal, dewatering and oxidation of organic soils, and dissolution collapse of susceptible materials. In the United States, subsidence due to these mechanisms affects more than 40,000 square kilometers in 45 states and causes at least $125 million in annual damage. Interferometric Synthetic Aperture Radar (InSAR) is a powerful new tool for assessing and mitigating subsidence.

1999 Annual Business Meeting Minutes

John Van Brahana, Secretary-Treasurer

The 1999 Annual Luncheon, Awards Ceremony, and Business Meeting of the Hydrogeology Division of the Geological Society of America (GSA) was held Tuesday, October 26, 1999. Awards were presented immediately following the luncheon.

Awardees included the following:

Student research--Dr. Mary Jo Baedecker, Division Chair, presented certificates and funding to Elizabeth James (University of Oregon), Kaveh Khorzad (University of Texas), Liz McVay (University of Kansas), Kristin Schultheis (Washington State University), and Timothy White (Washington State University).

Birdsall-Dreiss Lecturer--Dr. Baedecker presented a plaque in recognition of his accomplishments during the past year to Professor Stuart Rojstaczer, Duke University. Professor Scott Bair of Ohio State University was named as the new Birdsall-Dreiss Lecturer for 1999-2000.

Distinguished Service Awards--The Distinguished Service Award Committee selected Warren W. Wood, Research Hydrologist, U.S. Geological Survey, and
Professor Richard R. Parizek, Penn State University for significant contributions over the course of their careers. A brief summary of major accomplishments of each was documented in a brochure provided to all attendees, and Dr. Baedecker presented each with a plaque in recognition of exemplary service to the Division and to hydrogeology.

Carl Mendoza made the citation for the O.E. Meinzer award to Professor Edward A. Sudicky, University of Waterloo, who then gave his response. Division Chair Baedecker presented the Meinzer Bowl and certificate to Ed.

The business meeting convened shortly after the conclusion of the Awards Ceremony. Results of balloting were reported by Chairperson Baedecker, with Steve Wheatcraft elected Chair, Jean Bahr elected 1st Vice Chair, Bill Simpkins elected 2nd Vice Chair, and Van Brahana elected Secretary-Treasurer. A budget report was given.

The newsletter report was provided by Ira Sasowsky, who described significant savings by publishing the newsletter online. We are hopeful that savings in postage will continue, and can be applied to budget needs elsewhere, such as increased student support.

The website report was provided by Dave Diodato, and reflected increased usage, rapid communication with most of our members, and an overall effective means of sharing important information with our members. We will include digital images of this meeting and the upcoming student reception to highlight our accomplishments and our outreach. The U.S. Geological Survey and the University of Akron assist in support of this website.

Chairperson Baedecker recognized Claire Davidson as the donor of an accelerated planned gift. This will allow us to give more annual awards to student recipients, and brings our total Award Fund to $46,000. The Division and the hydrogeologic community appreciate and applaud the generosity of Claire B. Davidson.

Dr. Baedecker described many of the ongoing changes at GSA, especially with regard to personnel. We invited Karlon Blythe to present a brief summary of the GSA GeoMentor Program at the conclusion of the discussion. Reports from Standing Committee Chairs, Ad Hoc Committee Chairs, Section Chairs, and Representatives from other Societies were succinct, and focused on our continuing search to effectively communicate our science to a broad, diversifying base in a cost-effective manner.

The depth and breadth of this technical program, with 27 technical and poster sessions, reflects the vitality of our Division. Our Program Chair for 2000, Robert Ritzi, has already initiated work for an equally diverse program for our Annual Meeting in Reno.

For her final act as Chair, Mary Jo Baedecker turned the gavel over to Chair-elect Steve Wheatcraft, who adjourned the meeting.

Statement of Revenues and Expenses
12 Months Ending December 31, 1999

John Van Brahana, Sect’y-Treasurer

INCOME
Division Dues $14,126.00
Transfers In 5,552.72
Contributions 85.00
Total Revenue $19,763.72

EXPENSES
Ann. Mtg. - Travel $ 1,016.75
Ann. Mtg. - Misc. 100.00
Newsletter and Labels 350.78
GSA Production Costs 218.75
Awards 117.95
Birdsall Lecturer 267.00
Total Expenses $ 2,071.23

NET INCOME $17,692.49

Net Assets , ’98 carryover $ 9,251.36
Net Assets , ’99 17,692.49

TOTAL ASSETS $26,943.85

The Hydrogeology Division Award Fund, the Shirley J. Dreiss Memorial Fund, and the Birdsall Fund are maintained by the GSA Foundation. Current assets for these funds were not available at press time.

North-Central Update
Bill Simpkins

The 34th Annual Meeting of the North-Central Section of GSA was held in Indianapolis, Indiana, at the Indiana Government Center and Marriott Courtyard, on April 6-7, 2000. A total of six oral sessions and three poster sessions (including an Undergraduate Research Poster Session) focused on some aspect of hydrogeology and environmental geoscience. Of particular interest was the all-day session entitled, “Understanding, Restoring, and Managing Wetland Ecosystems,” which featured talks on a variety of coastal and inland wetlands and the techniques used to assess their hydrologic function in the landscape. Two postmeeting, hydrogeology-related field trips were offered. Roger Koelpin from the Indiana Department of Environmental Management led a field trip entitled “Glacial, Hydrological, Engineering, and Other Environmental Perspectives in the Indianapolis Area”. Nancy Hasenmueller, Carl Rexroad, John Bassett, and Richard Powell of the Indiana Geological Survey and Mark Buehler from the Department of Geological Sciences at Indiana University led a trip entitled “Geology, Hydrology, and Water Quality of Karst Areas

Continued on page 4
of Southern Indiana”. Sara Foland, GSA’s new CEO, spoke at the All-Convention Presentation on Thursday, April 6, 2000.

**Call for Donations**

Past Chair Mary Jo Baedecker will be collecting donations (books, software, etc.) to be given away at the student reception in Reno. Please consider if you have any items that you wish to donate. Contact Mary Jo so that she may begin planning for the event (mjbaedec@usgs.gov).

**Books Sought**

Division member Edwin Harvey would like to acquire the following out of print books:

- *Groundwater and seepage* (1962) by M.E. Harr
- *The properties of groundwater* (1982), by G. Matthess
- *Groundwater hydrology* (1978) by H. Bouwer
- *Open channel hydraulics* (1959) by V.T. Chow

If you know of a source for these, or have a copy that you no longer need, please contact Ed (feharvey1@unl.edu; 402-472-8237)

**Reminder - GSA Today**

Hydrogeologists, please consider submitting articles to *GSA Today* when the topic is clearly of interest to a broad range of geoscience. This is particularly true if the article deals with “cutting edge developments” in hydrogeology.

**Upcoming GSA Meetings**

**2000 GSA Meeting**

Reno, Nevada Nov. 12-16

Robert W. Ritzi, Division Program Chair

The following list includes proposed symposia, topical sessions, field trips, and short courses for the annual meeting. The call for abstracts and full descriptions are in your *GSA Today* April issue. The abstract deadline is July 25 for paper submission and August 1 for electronic submission. The final schedule will be set in August. Based on the quantity and quality of the sessions proposed I think we have the potential for an excellent technical program.

**Pardee Keynote Symposium**

Nuclear Waste Disposal: Bridging The Gap Between Science and Policy

**Hydrogeology Topical Sessions**

- 25 Years of Groundwater Modeling: A Special Session in Honor of Professor Mary Anderson
- Application of Electromagnetic Geophysical Methods to Hydrologic Investigations
- Application of Hydrologic and Geologic Studies to the Performance of a Potential Geologic Repository at Yucca Mountain, Nevada
- Artificial Recharge Through the Vadose Zone
- Bioclogging of Subsurface Environments: Laboratory, Field, and Modeling
- Closed Basin Lakes: Hydrogeology, Geochemistry, Water Management, and Environmental Impacts
- The Colloidal Chemistry of Natural Waters
- Coupled Hydrologic and Geochemical Processes in Mining and Engineered Wastes
- Environmental Isotopes in Hydrogeology
- Flow in Fractured Aquifers—From Field Characterization to Model Construction
- Geosciences: The Dominant Force in Ensuring Correct Environmental Characterization and Remediation with the Integration of Technologies and Disciplines
- Groundwater Flow, Geologic Processes, and Climate Change
- Groundwater Xenobiots: Bacterial and Pathogenic Transport, Storage and Viability in Shallow Surface-Influenced Groundwater Systems
- Heterogeneity in Granular Hydrogeologic/Reservoir Systems
- Innovative Applications In Water Supply and Environmental Investigation, Remediation, and Risk
- Integrated Geoscience Strategies Applied To Regional Groundwater Modeling: Death Valley Regional Groundwater Flow System
- International and Cross Border Issues Related to Groundwater Management Problems, Conflicts and Strategies
- Mining Impacts on Hydrologic Systems
- Natural Attenuation Processes
- Physical Modeling for Process Understanding and Model Validation in Subsurface Flow and Transport
- Phytoremediation of Groundwater and Soil
- Postaudits of Remedial Systems
- Rare Earth Elements in Ground Water Flow Systems
- Redox Manipulation for Groundwater Remediation
- Restoring and Sustaining Aquifers for Their In-Situ Values
- Solute Cycling in Groundwater and Surface Water
- Stress and Strain in Subsurface Flow Systems
- Studies on Water Movement and Solute Transport in Arid Regions
- Surface Water - Ground Water Connections

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Biographies of Officer Candidates


William W. Simpkins. Born in Granite City, Illinois, on December 15, 1954, has been a GSA member since 1979. Education: Augustana College (Rock Island, IL); B.A. in Geology, 1978; University of Wisconsin-Madison, M.S. degrees in Geology and Geophysics and in Water Resources Management, 1979; University of Wisconsin-Madison, Ph.D. in Geology and Geophysics, 1989. He was a Research Associate with the University of Texas at Austin, Bureau of Economic Geology (BEG), 1979-1985. Research Liaison for BEG to the Salt Repository Project Office at Battelle Memorial Laboratories in Columbus, Ohio, 1982-1983. An Assistant Professor (1989-1995) and Associate Professor (1995-present) of Geology at Iowa State University in Ames, IA, and faculty member of the Water Resources Program. Author or co-author of more than 50 journal articles, conference proceedings, field trip guidebooks, and technical reports. Service to GSA and the Hydrogeology Division includes 2nd Vice Chair (2000), North-Central Section Representative for the Hydrogeology Division, 1990-present; Hydrogeology Liaison to the Management Board, North-Central Section, 1992-present; Penrose Conference Co-Convenor with John Cherry and Dave McKelson, 1994; Session Co-Chair, 1992 (2); Theme Session Co-Convenor, 1996 (2); Chair, Hydrogeology Division Penrose Conference Committees, 1994-1996; Field Trip Chair and Trip Leader, 1996; North-Central Section GSA Meeting in Ames, IA; Hydrogeology Program Chair for Annual Meeting in Denver (1999); host for 7 Birdsall-Dreiss Distinguished Lecturers; member of GSA Boston (1993) and Denver Mile-High Chorales (1996). Other professional activities: Associate Editor of Ground Water (1996-present); Member of NAS-NRC Board on Agriculture Committee to evaluate the USDA National Research Initiative, 1998-present; Chair and Field Trip Leader for Tri-State Geological Field Conference in Ames, IA, 1993; Geology Alumni Advisory Board, Augustana College, 1990-1992. Member of AGU, AGWSE, AEEP, Sigma Xi, American Association of Petroleum Geologists, and Geological Society of Iowa. Professional interests include the hydrogeology of till, water-quality problems related to agriculture, the hydrogeology of re-established riparian buffers, application of isotopes to hydrogeology: and field methods in hydrogeology.


Ballot for Election of Officers for 2001
GSA Hydrogeology Division

Chair Jean Bahr

(Write in ______________________)

First Vice Chair William W. (Bill) Simpkins

(Write in ______________________)

Second Vice Chair Robert W. Ritzi, Jr.

(Write in ______________________)

Secretary - Treasurer Ralph K. Davis

(Write in ______________________)

Instructions:
1. Vote for no more than one officer for each of the positions.
2. Sign, address, and date the opposite side of this form.
3. Fold, staple or tape, and First Class stamp the form.
4. Form must be received at GSA headquarters no later than July 31, 2000.
For a legal vote, this sheet must bear the signature of the voter.

From _______________________________
Signature _______________________________
Address _______________________________
Date ___________
Developing confidence in the long-term performance of a repository -- Although the engineering aspects of a repository are reasonably well understood, prediction of the long-term performance is problematic. There is no parallel in human history where we have designed a facility for a lifetime on the order of tens of thousands of years. Many of these issues require geologic analysis in the broadest sense. Critical questions for scientists include: To what extent can long-term geological behavior and long-term repository performance be predicted? How do scientists become confident about long-term behavior of the repository system? How do scientists decide when they have a sufficient understanding of repository system behavior?

The scientific process vs. the policy making process - - Policymakers face the dilemma that the scientific uncertainties noted in the first example may drive them to do nothing--especially if scientists do not convey scientific understanding, including scientific uncertainties, on long-term repository system performance in an appropriate and large enough context. This panel discussion will try to identify elements of the appropriate context for evaluation of scientific information and how scientists can communicate the science and its uncertainties to nonscientists--policymakers, regulators, and society at large. This panel discussion addresses the form and method of this communication. The relevant questions include the following: How should scientists in general (and geologists in particular), who have important insights to offer on process rates and time scales) communicate with regulators, policymakers, and with society at large? To what extent do scientists have a responsibility for such communication? How can you explain how safe a repository is to the public? Can they communicate this in a way that allows policymakers to make informed choices? What kind of dialogue is needed? How can it be constructed and what is the scientist’s role in the dialogue? How can scientists help to identify and communicate the appropriate scientific context for policy decision making?

_Continued from page 4_

Volcanic Rock Aquifers: Characterization of Flow and Transport in the Saturated and Unsaturated Zones
Water Quality in the Arid West: Controls on Inorganic Anthropogenic By-Products
Related Topical Sessions (Other Divisions)

Land Subsidence, Earth Fissures, and Aquifer Mechanics
Remote Sensing and GIS in the New Millennium: The Use of RS and GIS in Environmental and Engineering Projects: Case Studies in Evaluation, Remediation, Monitoring and Modeling
Field Trips

Exploring the Lower Truckee River and Pyramid Lake
Hydrology of the Tahoe Basin
Hydrologic and Geologic Characteristics of the Yucca Mountain Site Relevant to the Performance of a Potential Repository
Short Courses
Applications of Environmental Isotopes in Groundwater Studies
Practical Methods in Applied Contaminant Geochemistry: From Characterization to Remediation
Field Methods for Estimation of Spatial Variations in Hydraulic Conductivity: Theory and Practical Ramifications

*Nuclear Waste Disposal: Bridging the gap between science and policy*

_Pardee Symposium_
Jean Bahr

The Hydrogeology Division will be a sponsor of one of the Pardee Symposia selected for the 2000 Annual Meeting. The symposium is titled "Nuclear Waste Disposal: Bridging the Gap Between Science and Policy" and it will examine the scientific process of developing confidence in the long-term performance of a repository and how this relates to the policy-making process. Reno is a particularly appropriate venue for this symposium since Nevada is the host state for the Yucca Mountain Project, the only repository under consideration in the US for civilian high-level nuclear waste disposal. Geologic concerns are paramount in deciding whether or not Yucca Mountain should be the Nation’s nuclear waste repository.

Symposium organizers Jane Long (University of Nevada-Reno), Jean Bahr (University of Wisconsin-Madison), and Kevin Crowley (Board on Radioactive Waste Management, National Research Council) are in the process of inviting panelists to focus on the two topics outlined below.

*Other Upcoming Meetings*

Atmospheric, Surface, and Subsurface Hydrology and Interactions

_AIH Annual Meeting & Int'l. Conference_
This meeting sponsored by the American Institute of Hydrology will be held November 5-8, 2000 at the Sheraton Imperial Hotel and Convention Center, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina. Contact AIH for more information (www.aihydro.org; ph: 651-484-8169).
A large proportion of the world's population (about 70%) dwells in coastal zones. In the last half-century, population and economic growth have greatly increased freshwater demands. The lack of good management schemes for coastal water resources has led to the over-exploitation of ground water in many parts of the world. The encroachment of seawater into coastal aquifers has become a common problem.

The SWICA-M³ Conference will be held April 23-25, 2001, in Morocco to bring together researchers, practitioners, and water-resources managers from all over the world to exchange the state-of-the-art knowledge. It is intended to be a multidisciplinary meeting that gathers hydrogeologists, geophysicists, geochemists, numerical modelers, managers, and policy makers in the same room. The idea is to promote integrated approaches that can bridge monitoring, modeling, and management aspects. To achieve these goals, this conference provides not only regular sessions of scientific presentations, but also keynote lectures aimed at an interdisciplinary audience. Prior to the conference (April 18-21, 2001), two 2-day tutorial workshops will provide training on fundamental theories as well as hands-on sessions on computer modeling.

Contributors and participants are encouraged to submit a one-page abstract as soon as possible and no later than the deadline of July 15, 2000.

The Conference will be held in Essaouira, a tourist town 140-km west of Marrakech, by the Atlantic Ocean. There are convenient airline connections from Casablanca.

For more information and the latest details, please visit the Conference Web site.
http://www.ce.udel.edu/faculty/cheng/saltnet/swica/

A conference, Karst Frontiers: Florida and Related Environments, is being organized by the Karst Waters Institute (KWI). The conference will be held in March 2002. The planning committee is: Jack Hess, Horton Hobbs, Bill Jones, Brian Katz, Jon Martin, Art Palmer, Ira Sasowsky, Will White, and Carol Wicks. The focus of the conference will be the hydrogeology and ecology of the karst aquifers in Florida, while at the same time the planning committee wants to explore connections with similar environments around the world. As with past KWI conferences, this meeting will cross disciplinary boundaries (biological sciences and geological sciences). The tentative schedule is for 2 days of technical sessions (no concurrent sessions are planned) and a full-day field trip. It is planned to have two major tracks, one centered on the geological/hydrological/geochemical karst sciences, and the other centered on the life karst sciences.

Further information will be available on the Institute website as it becomes available (www.karstwaters.org).
Editor’s Note

This issue arrives somewhat later than usual, due to a delay in obtaining materials that we considered essential. I give my apologies to the readers for this delay, and my thanks to all those who helped with this issue. In particular the assistance of Darryll Pederson and Rebecca Kempthorne is appreciated.

Ira D. Sasowsky, Editor
The Hydrogeologist
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