

ASSOCIATED SOCIETY BUSINESS MEETING NOTES
6-7 March 2010
GSA Headquarters

ATTENDEES:

Holly Brunkal	Association for Women Geoscientists	Lisa Park	Paleontological Society (The)
Wendy Davidson	American Institute of Professional Geologists	Becky Roland	Association of Environmental & Engineering Geologists
Richard A. Engberg	American Water Resources Association	William J. Siok	American Institute of Professional Geologists
Duane Eversoll	Association of State Boards of Geology (National)	Bruce D. Smith	Environmental and Engineering Geophysical Society
Martin B. Goldhaber	Geochemical Society	Alex Speer	Mineralogical Society of America
Howard Harper	Society for Sedimentary Geology	Janis Treworgy	National Association of Geoscience Teachers
Suzanne Larsen	Geoscience Information Society	Pam Fistell	Geological Society of America
Vincent Matthews	Association of American State Geologists	John Geissman	Geological Society of America
Hazel Medville	National Cave and Karst Research Institute	Jack Hess	Geological Society of America
Mark Molinari	Association of Environmental & Engineering Geologists	Judy Parrish	University of Idaho (GSA Past President)

2:00 PM Meeting brought to order

Discussions:

- Update on new Associated Societies- New - Geological Society of Africa (GSAf)
- Update on MGPV Division-thrust is to invigorate Mineralogy, Geochemistry, Petrology and Volcanology. Twenty-six sessions will be supported by MGPV this year.
- Congressional Science Fellow:
 - Need funds to support another CSF on the hill, 100K per year (includes stipend, moving, medical insurance, and travel).
 - Support from Associated Societies would require a 3-5 year commitment.
 - How are sponsors promoted –possibly logos, names, website
 - Need commitment by early fall 2010.
 - Take request back to AS boards, see if we can make this work.
 - How many CSF become permanent staffers: 1/3 continue working in public policy, 1/3 return to their home institution, 1/3 having been in Washington go off and do something totally different.
- Associated Society Survey Results
 - Participation in section meetings: AS needs to inform GSA as to what their members want.
 - More communications, advance notification of when and where.
 - Specialty meetings: procedure needed, APC and council drive to a degree, need advertising
 - Attendance at the Spring Business Meeting – down: economy, where is this group going, follow thru and outcomes need to be focused on. Benefits: sharing information, integration of AS and divisions, focus on topical subject, objectives of AS groups, what is going on and having input.
 - GSA wants to know actions the AS wish to see
 - Remote meetings, cost saving, works well
 - Need more youth at meetings
 - Communications: List serves, blogs, facebook, twitter, linked-in.
 - Reciprocal fees/discounts – don't know what respondent meant
 - GSA partnerships
- Membership trends among AS:
 - First year on line membership down, people don't realize they can join on line vs mail.
 - AEG students, Carolina section up 300%
 - Most follow up with email and phone calls
 - Paleo Society down and flat, renewals low, renewal notices out in December, renewals will pick up in summer before GSA Annual Meeting. Would like to explore automatic renewal, 2 year membership, modifying membership levels and packages. Library subscriptions down
 - MSA, membership increasing slowly, as publications and discounts are helping
 - SEPM, membership up 1%

- GIS, membership down members cannot pay to come to meetings, no grants
 - GS – generally speaking, membership is growing. Goldschmidt meeting-working on China, would like a joint Goldschmidt, GS and GSA meeting, reaching out to underserved countries in Africa, Asia, South America
 - GSA increased by 800 members in 2009
- How many societies have non journal membership? Anyone do automatic renewal? (unless we hear from you, we will renew your membership.)
 - Option given to not received hardcopy of journal vs online
 - Lifetime memberships available, included: 4 journals, newsletters
 - Unbundled membership increasing.
 - 2 yr option-no results yet
 - AGI undergraduate packages-don't know what happened to that.
 - GS unbundled as far as journals
 - EEGS, level membership, business model funded off annual meeting, journal, cooperatives, joint publishings, looking more into electronic publishing-books
 - AWRA offered a 14 for 12 membership, last 2 months of previous year plus allows you to get member rate for meeting, extra copy of journal and magazine-modestly successful. 40-50% retention rate
 - GSA 15 for 12, have decoupled, individual journal subscriptions decreasing, successful tele-renewal program
 - Suggestion- Add a donate section to donate subscription as gift to someone, add box to membership form.
 - MSA offers gift subscription to Elements
- How can we make business meetings more productive, brain storm and discuss where this group is going and integration of AS and Divisions.
 - follow thru and outcomes need to be focused on,
 - attend other organizations meetings and get input from other societies.
 - Come up with a set of things these group should accomplish every meeting would be very difficult,
 - Share information
 - Network and stay abreast of geosciences
 - Focus on a topical subject each meeting
 - PS, our annual meeting is in GSA and to know what is going on and to have some input, nice to know what others are doing, success stories, helps us manage our societies better, could have task forces, give advice,
 - GSA is not a governing body. GSA wants to know actions you want and can be passed to council
 - remote meetings, do remote meetings and have a topic, do monthly and those who are interested in that topic will become involved,
 - need more youth at meetings, methods of communication-that is the preferred medium of young people, we need them here, thinking on different lines than we are, sponsor students for boards and council positions
- Accreditation
 - Report from Pat Leahy: There was brief meeting at GSA that included GSA, AGI, AIPG, and AEG. There was interest in doing something to move forward. We agreed to get an individual who would have credibility to lead a workshop that would involve academia, industry and government. Wayne Pennington was recommended as an individual who has the credentials to lead such a workshop. He has both geological engineering and geology programs at Mich. Tech. so he understands the array of models for accreditation. I met with Wayne just before the holidays. He is serving on a Jefferson Fellowship at Dept. of State this year. He agreed to serve as the chair of the workshop when his fellowship ends later this year. In addition, SME president and Ex. Dir are in town next week and want to discuss accreditation. I believe they have strong interest in the issue and we will brief them on plans and see if they would like to be part of the group. Once that meeting is complete, we will approach NSF for funding to support the workshop. We mentioned the workshop to NSF last spring and they showed some interest. I am hopeful that with more organization in the mix, they will be more receptive to funding.
 - Who would be accrediting agency?
 - Who does their own accreditation?
 - What is content of undergraduate curriculum?
 - Departments are largely reluctant to do accreditation (see Bralower et al. article in GSA Today)

- Send position statements to head of universities
- Need to be more astute politically
- Charge for Sunday - Discussion of Overarching Themes and Integration
 - how can we better get divisions and AS better integrated?
 - should we be formalizing more relationships like MGPV,
 - is there more that GSA can do, do you feel constrained, how is website working for you, get those out that are not hot linked (don't feel they are under the right them are hot),
 - how to translate themes into organizing the meeting, still organized by disciplines, how do you translate overarching them to annual meeting? APC discussing. Alex themes used for Pardees.
 - this group could help with how to organize annual meeting.
 - how do we narrow down using self identified interests, how do we focus down but not focus down too much.
 - Is there an intermediate level to identify relationships?

Adjourned meeting at 5:01 PM

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9:30 AM Meeting brought to order – John Geissman to chair this part of the meeting.

- JTPC draft responsibilities:
 - change working “not covered by GSA division”, change that wording
 - regularly scheduled meetings, expand and change wording,
 - problem getting someone from SEPM on JTPC, cannot tell them exactly what the duties are,
 - new rules start to address that but need more, semi formal structure, discuss with divisions.
 - What are the official tasks/duties of tech program chair?
 - unwritten responsibility, should be written out.
 - Where does AS responsibility start and end?
 - Need a one page summary of what this has raised, should take this discussion to divisions.
 - Job of tech program chair to recognize overlap and duplicity of topics and co sponsored by both.
 - Meeting organizer looking at whole program should be made aware of new variables and new structures.
 - Time frame, basic items laid out, roles, expectations. Need instructions for JTPC, GSA responsibility, procedure, timeframe. Need expansion of Melissa handbook to pick up processes, appointees turnover. Regularly scheduled meeting section, expand or get Melissa's handbook.
 - Need consistency in document, GED with NAGT, MPVG with Geochemical Society.
- Associated Society Survey
 - Strengthen relationships, the possibility of new GSA sponsored journals was a high priority
 - need new avenues, proposals can be submitted to publications committee.
 - Maybe a hydro related journal sponsored by GSA?
 - Does JTPC get involved with Section vs annual meeting.
 - Hard to get commitment from sections
 - GSA is working on handbook for section meetings. Hard to find places to host, getting community together is difficult. Associated Societies could contact their sections to recruit.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00.