AIPG Honors & Awards

AIPG Awards Luncheon

September 10, 2016
Drury Plaza Hotel
Santa Fe, New Mexico
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AIPG Honors and Awards Committee

David G. Pyles, CPG-07364
Michael D. Lawless, CPG-09224
Dr. Samuel W. Gowan, CPG-07284
Dennis Pennington, CPG-04401
J. Todd McFarland, CPG-11348

AIPG Honors and Awards Program

Descriptions of the awards, past recipients, and the nomination forms can be found on the AIPG National website or contact the AIPG National Headquarters office at:

American Institute of Professional Geologists
12000 Washington St., Suite 285
Thornton, CO 80241
(303) 412-6205
aipg@aipg.org • www.aipg.org
The purpose of the AIPG Student Chapter of the Year Award is to recognize the most outstanding student chapter for their participation in, and contribution to, the American Institute of Professional Geologists. The award will consist of a plaque to be presented to the student chapter, a certificate to each of the officers of the chapter at the time of their submittal, a $500.00 award for the chapter, and a trip for one member of the winning student chapter to the annual AIPG conference and executive meetings. The student that attends the annual meeting will observe the organization and functions of AIPG and participate in the executive board meeting.

All AIPG student chapters are eligible to apply for the award. There is no limit on the number of times a student chapter may win the award. Only one chapter will receive the award per year.

The Student Chapter of the Year Award is administered by the Executive Committee of AIPG. The selection of the winning chapter will be decided by the AIPG Education Committee. The deadline for submittal of application materials for the Student Chapter of the Year Award, to AIPG National Headquarters, is June 30 of each year. The application should be submitted in a pdf or similar format. The winning chapter will be announced at the beginning of the Fall Semester. The certificates will be presented to the students at one of their chapter meetings. The award and plaque will be presented to the chapter delegate at the annual meeting of AIPG.

Details of submission requirements are available online at www.aipg.org.

2016 Recipient of the Student Chapter Award

Metropolitan State University of Denver
Denver, Colorado
AIPG Student Chapter Founded 2013

Chapter Sponsor: Tom Van Arsdale, CPG-11073
Faculty Sponsors: Drs. Uwe Kackstaetter and Barbara EchoHawk

Student Chapter Officers:
President - Jessica Davey, SA-4424
Vice President - Jaclyn Coulon, SA-6934
Secretary - Benjamin Eppley, SA-8024
Treasurer - Kevins O. Magouirk, SA-5674
Support Officer - Byron Clayton, SA-6947
Support Officer - Colin P. Lamb, SA-6965
The AIPG Section Leadership Award was established by the Executive Committee in 2013 to recognize one or more of our members who have demonstrated a long-term commitment and have been long-term contributors to AIPG at the section level. AIPG has many sections where one or more individuals have demonstrated exceptional leadership for their section and in many instances kept the section together and moving forward. These individuals are commonly not known at the National level or by AIPG members outside of their sections, however, their contributions have been vital to their sections and they perform this work because of their commitment to our profession and AIPG. The award will consist of a plaque (or similar) that will be presented to the awardees at the annual meeting of AIPG. Based on the above criteria the Awards Committee may select multiple nominees for the award.

The AIPG Section Leadership Award is administered by the Executive Committee of AIPG. The selection of the winning member(s) will be decided by the AIPG Awards Committee. The deadline for submittal of nominees for the AIPG Section Leadership Award, to AIPG National Headquarters, is May 31 of each year.

2016 AIPG Section Leadership Award Recipients

Anne M. Murray, CPG-11645
Florida Section

Anne Murray, PG, CPG-11645 has served the AIPG Florida Section in the following capacities, since 2011

- President (2012-Present)
- Webmaster (2012-Present)
- President-Elect (2011-2012)
- AIPG Section Delegate 2014

Anne Murray became President-elect of AIPG-FAPG in 2012. Since that time she has worked hard to implement several of the AIPG National initiatives, including:

- Establishing active student chapters at Florida State University, Florida Atlantic University, and the University of South Florida.

- The Florida Board of Geologists asked FAPG–AIPG to support a change in Florida’s legislation to include an In-training Program for Geologists allowing them to take the first part of the PG licensing test. Anne coordinated this effort between the Florida Board, AIPG-FAPG and FAPG’s lobbyist. The legislative effort was successful and we now have the in-training program.

- Anne has worked with the Kentucky section to bring their geologist-in-training prep class to Florida universities.
• Anne has worked on project with the Florida Engineering Society (FES) for a Winter Water Conference, in Tallahassee, Florida’s state capital. The purpose is to increase collaboration between Florida’s geologists and engineers, who have a powerful legislative lobby. FES support will go a long way toward our success in the legislature.

She understands and builds on the important foundational role AIPG plays in protecting, enhancing and promoting the profession of geology in Florida. Her determination to achieve organizational goals has resulted in increasing engagement, most remarkably in the student sector; fostering enhanced membership communication through website management and re-established newsletter releases; elevating FAPG-AIPG’s role to protect and grow the scope of geologic practice in legislature by working closely with FAPG’s lobbyist; collaborating with other AIPG sections and state geological societies to organize meetings, fieldtrips, and workshops; and promoting networking of regional coordinators in their local areas.

Anne has shown long-term commitment to AIPG through her work and longevity on the Florida Section board and in her role as Section Delegate at national meetings. Her contributions have provided outstanding value and have inspired an exciting path forward for section membership with increased connectivity, opportunity, and committed professional support.

Nominated by: Helen V. Hickman, CPG-7535

Dawn L. Prell, CPG-11222
Michigan Section

Dawn has been a member of the Michigan Section since December 1998, regularly managing Michigan Section activities, advocating for the Section, increasing community and academic engagement, exhibiting high ethical standards, and generally leading by example at all times.

From the beginning, Dawn has brought her enthusiasm to the Michigan Section, and in 2007 she volunteered her technical expertise to serve as the Technical Program co-chair to our successful hosting of the National meeting. Building on this success, Dawn served the Michigan Section as Secretary, Treasurer, Vice President, President, and Past President from 2008 through 2012. In 2013, our then-treasurer resigned suddenly for health reasons, and Dawn stepped in to serve a second tour through our executive committee. Dawn is currently serving on the executive committee as the past president and continues to make valuable contributions on the planning committee for our well attended, multi-day summer workshop.

Dawn’s years of service have coincided with a time of steady financial growth and increased donations for our Section. Although our Section’s success is attributed to many people, Dawn’s leadership has been instrumental in helping us achieve all that we have. The Section is financially sound and providing scholarships and grants to elementary education and college students across Michigan. Our membership is strong with sustained membership and excellent attendance and participation at meetings and field trips. We
have launched four AIPG Student Sections at Michigan universities and actively mentor and engage the students in Section activities. Dawn has spearheaded several efforts to provide grant money and scholarships to deserving groups.

Dawn is a senior project manager at Golder Associates and has an excellent reputation among her peers, clients, and state regulators. She is widely viewed as being an excellent geologist who conducts herself in an ethical and trustworthy manner. Despite a busy professional schedule and the demands of family, she has always found time to give more to the Section when there was a need. She has also taken the time to mentor undergraduates in our student sections who have successfully entered our profession.

Dawn gives selflessly of her time and energy to help make the Michigan Section the active and successful organization it is today. We believe that Dawn embodies the spirit intended to be acknowledged by this award, and is well deserving of this recognition. Therefore, we respectfully request that Dawn be awarded the AIPG Section Leadership Award.

Nominated by: Brian Burke, CPG-10564 and Adam W. Heft, CPG-10265

Bruce D. Johnson, CPG-9364
Minnesota Section

Bruce has been a leader and supporter of the Minnesota Section for many years. He’s done so much to keep our Section active and promote professional geology in Minnesota.

Bruce has been actively involved in the AIPG Minnesota Section for years. He’s held almost every position within our section, but my favorite has been the Field Trip Committee! I’ve been on at least 3 fabulous field trips arranged by Bruce. He was heavily involved in planning and field trips when the Twin Cities hosted the AIPG Annual Meeting, which is when I started being a more active member. Bruce has helped organize at least 15 of our annual Spring Social events and many of our golf fundraising events. Bruce is very generous with his time volunteering. He’s organized our student scholarship for years, has given numerous geology talks to students, and participated in several recent career panels at local universities. Bruce is an invaluable resource for the Minnesota Section!

Nominated by: Shanna A. Schmitt, CPG-11781

Thomas F. Jenkins, CPG-7892
Ohio Section

Tom is currently serving the Ohio Section of AIPG as Past President. I have served on the Executive Committee of the Ohio Section for the past 7.5 years as a Member-At-Large, Treasurer, and President-Elect. Over my career I have had the pleasure to work directly with Tom on the Executive Committee of the Ohio Section and in
AIPG 2015 SECTION LEADERSHIP AWARD RECIPIENTS

a professional capacity since 1999. Through our interactions, I have witnessed Tom’s unwavering and selfless dedication to AIPG and the geologic profession first hand.

To give a bit of history of Tom, he began his career in geology after graduating from Kent State University with a BS in science in 1978. Subsequent to obtaining his degree, Tom worked for 7 years as an exploration geologist in Nevada before returning home to obtain an MS in hydrogeology from Ohio University in 1987. For the past 29 years Tom has worked as a hydrogeologist in both consulting and in private industry. Through his career he has used his extensive knowledge and capabilities to assist clients on projects including, but not limited to, brownfield site assessments, water supply investigations, hydrogeologic investigations, gas station evaluation and clean ups, solid waste sites, and remedial sites.

Tom has been involved with the Ohio Section of AIPG for over 20 years. He joined the Ohio Section of AIPG as a Certified Professional Geologist in the 1990s. Highlights of his early involvement with AIPG included National Vice-Chairman for the AIPG Annual Meeting held in Columbus and hosted by the Ohio Section in 1996 and as the Ohio Section Newsletter Editor for over 10 years. Since 2012, Tom has reimmersed himself in AIPG, first as President-Elect, then with two terms as President in 2013 and 2015. As our current Past President, Tom has continued working towards growing the Section through membership efforts and the development of a future short-course to provide continuing education to members.

Through his work within the Ohio Section Tom has provided the Membership with a wide variety of opportunities to further their knowledge of geology in Ohio. Tom has strived to obtain both entertaining and informative guest speakers for Ohio Section meetings and has provided members with unique field trip opportunities including tours of unique features of Ohio’s glacial and bedrock geology.

At the AIPG National level, Tom has assisted with the organization of three AIPG National shale gas conferences held in Ohio, using his extensive contacts to assist AIPG National with arranging vendors, guest speakers, and other conference details.

In conclusion, Tom has demonstrated a selfless dedication and commitment to the furthering of the profession and the Ohio Section of AIPG throughout his career. Therefore, it is my honor as his colleague and friend to nominate him for the Section Leadership Award.

Nominated by: Brent R. Smith, Ohio Section President-Elect, CPG-11130

Thomas V. Durkin, CPG-9138
South Dakota Section

Tom is a long-time member and leader of the South Dakota Section of AIPG, and he embodies the spirit, qualities and ideals that are recognized through this award. He has served in multiple officer positions in the South Dakota Section, and recently completed terms as President and Past President of the section. Perhaps even more significant are his many contributions to almost all section activities, and the support that he has shown for the section behind the scenes in numerous ways.

Tom is one of a small group of individuals who have been critical in maintaining and sustaining
the South Dakota Section, particularly through a number of lean years when the section was struggling with a lack of participation from geoscientists who live and work in South Dakota. Thanks to Tom and a handful of other dedicated individuals, the South Dakota Section weathered those tough years, and has now grown into a healthy, active section, particularly with respect to student participation and outstanding field trips. A specific example of his many contributions is the AIPG South Dakota Section web page, which Tom single-handedly created and has continued to maintain for many years. Tom also routinely submits news items from the South Dakota Section for inclusion in The Professional Geologist, and he participates in almost every section field trip, meeting, or function of any kind, sometimes organizing them himself.

Another excellent example of Tom’s contributions was his significant effort to bring together seven state and federal organizations to cooperate on the design, construction, and installation of a geologic roadside display along the route to Mount Rushmore in the Black Hills, providing geologic information to over two million potential viewers per year as they drive to the Shrine of Democracy. I also would like to mention that Tom is the Deputy Director of the South Dakota Space Grant Consortium, and in that position he performs numerous outreach events at museums, schools, and other venues in South Dakota, bringing science to the general public with a positive, fascinating flair and with wonderful charm and charisma.

Overall, I can’t think of anyone who has done more for the AIPG South Dakota Section over many years and under many circumstances, or anyone who better exemplifies the high standards represented by the AIPG Section Leadership Award than Mr. Thomas V. Durkin, and I am pleased to nominate and wholehearted recommend Tom for the distinct honor of receiving this national award.

Nominated by: J. Foster Sawyer CPG-10000
Each year, the AIPG President may award one or more certificates of merit to individuals who, through dedicated and meritorious service, have made an outstanding contribution to the Institute.

**Helen V. Hickman, 2016 National President**

*R. Douglas Bartlett, CPG-08433*
For supporting AIPG in a leadership role and with time and resources.

**Wendy J. Davidson**
For providing exemplary leadership and dedication to AIPG beyond that which is normally required of her position.

**J. Foster Sawyer, CPG-10000**
For demonstrating a superior level of service to AIPG under difficult and unusual circumstances.

**William J. Siok, CPG-04773**
For always having the very best interests of AIPG in every decision.

**Daniel J. St. Germain, CPG-07858**
For providing important insight to AIPG in the selection of a new Executive Director.

**Lawrence C. Weber, CPG-07120**
For providing important insight to AIPG in the selection of a new Executive Director.
AIPG 2016 National Executive Committee

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Helen V. Hickman, CPG-07535
Florida

PRESIDENT-ELECT
Adam W. Heft, CPG-10265
Michigan

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David G. Pyles, CPG-07364
Illinois

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