Applicants for certification must meet AIPG’s standards as set forth in its Bylaws on education, experience, competence, and personal integrity. If any Member or board has any factual information as to any applicant’s qualifications in regard to these standards, whether that information might be positive or negative, please mail that information to Headquarters within thirty (30) days. This information will be circulated only so far as necessary to process and make decisions on the applications. Negative information regarding an applicant’s qualifications must be specific and supportable; persons who provide information that leads to an application’s rejection may be called as a witness in any resulting appeal action.

Applicants for Certification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address/Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AK</td>
<td>Robert R. Hunter</td>
<td>17957 Meadow Creek Dr., Eagle River AK 99577. Sponsors: Jerome Siok, Gary Pelka, Mark Myers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TX</td>
<td>Mark J. Larson</td>
<td>2501 Learmont Dr., Midland TX 79705. Sponsors: Bert Smith, Donald Beaver, Fred Peterson.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TX</td>
<td>Molly O’Kelley Prater</td>
<td>17409 County Rd. 1325, Flint TX 75762. Sponsors: Glen Collier, Chester Safe, Hershel ‘Bud’ Jones.</td>
</tr>
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The First International Professional Geology Conference (IPGC) - An Update

President Tom Fails referred to this meeting in his August 1999 TPG President’s Message. At the time, the name was slightly different: “First International Congress of Professional Geology.” Conference sponsors/organizers include the European Federation of Geologists, AIPG, the Canadian Congress of Professional Geologists, the Spanish Geological Survey, and several other Spanish institutions. HRH Prince Felipe will be the Honorary President of the Conference, which will take place July 10-14, 2000, at Alicante, Spain. Alicante is a scenic port and resort city in southeastern Spain, located where the Betic Alps plunge into the Mediterranean Sea.

A number of CPGs are already involved in the Conference, including President Fails (First Vice President), President-Elect Pennington, Vice President Font, and Executive Director Siok. All are involved as Session or Round Table Chairs or are presenting short courses (Robert Font on Geologic Hazards). CPG David Abbott will chair the Session on Ethics in Professional Practice, Fails the Session on Continuing Professional Development, and Pennington and Siok are Round Table Chairs. Additional Session speakers and Round Table participants are sought. Please see the subjects list in the August TPG. The official languages of the Conference are English and Spanish, so you won’t need a short course. However, papers must be submitted in hard copy plus diskette or by e-mail no later than January 31, 2000. Oral presentations are limited to 15 minutes, with 5 minutes for questions. If you are interested in participating or learning more, please contact Executive Director Siok or President Fails for additional information.

This Conference offers an opportunity to many AIPG members and their families who enjoy international travel plus the opportunity to meet and network with many of our European colleagues. Spain is one of the least expensive and most interesting tourist destinations in Europe. We have no information on accommodations so far, but expect something soon. If sufficient interest is indicated by potential AIPG attendees, we will investigate the possibility of group-basis air fares.

Look for additional articles and notices regarding the ICPG in forthcoming issues of TPG and on the Institute's website.

AIPG Membership Totals

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<th>As of 11/25/98</th>
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The First International Professional Geology Conference (IPGC) - An Update

36TH ANNUAL AIPG MEETING PHOTOS, GIRDWOOD, ALASKA

Meetings
Awards Banquet
Field Trips, etc.

2000 WESTERN REGIONAL MEETING

MEETINGS, NOT REALLY BY CHANCE
A REPORT OF THE AIPG NATIONAL EXECUTIVE MEETING AND RELATED MEETINGS IN ALASKA

Dorothy Richter and Lynn Kantner

Kentucky Paleontological Society
Statement on the Teaching of Evolution

AIPG 1999 Honors and Awards

SPECIAL NOTICE
National Petroleum Forum in January 2000


INSIDE AND BACK COVER - Photographs submitted by Ron Alexander, Bob Braunstein, Lynn Kantner, Susan M. Landon, Rob Rohlfs, and Gail Siok.

DEPARTMENTS

NEW MEMBERS, APPLICANTS, ETC.
PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE - 1999 In Review, and the View Ahead
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S COLUMN - A New Year with Old Challenges
AGI GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS PROGRAM MONTHLY REVIEW
PROFESSIONAL ETHICS AND PRACTICES - Column 49
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES DIRECTORY

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36th Annual AIPG Meeting, Girdwood, Alaska

Treasurer Kel Buchanan and 2000 President Dennis Pennington. Executive Director Bill Siok, Vice President Robert Font, and Advisory Board Representative Dawn Garcia.
36TH ANNUAL AIPG MEETING, GIRDWOOD, ALASKA


The 1999 Executive Committee presents President Tom Fails with a memento of his year as AIPG leader.

Former Governor Jay Hammond, Marilyn Plitnik, and Dick Ragle

Bob Braunstein

Harriet and Dick Ragle, and Linnea Crosby
Vice President Robert Font addresses the combined 1999 and 2000 Executive Committees and guests on October 6, 1999 in Girdwood.
36TH ANNUAL AIPG MEETING, GIRDWOOD, ALASKA

Tom Fails
Myrna Killey and Bill Hoyt
Jon Price and Charles Dimmick

Patrick Leahy and John Dragonetti
Edmund Nickless and Mark Rogers
Bill Knight and Gary Van Guilder
President Fails receives memento from incoming President Pennington during combined Executive Committee Meeting.

President Fails recognizes outgoing Secretary John Bognar.

President-Elect Pennington recognizes 1999 President Fails.

President Fails recognizes 1999 Vice President Robert Font.

President Fails thanks outgoing Advisory Board Representatives Lynn Kantner, Dorothy Richter, Ron Alexander, and Dawn Garcia.
1999 In Review, and the View Ahead

This has been an interesting year...

First, we have survived financially. With the dues increase for 1999 and the loyalty and faithfulness of nearly all of our membership, the rapid financial decline of 1994-1998 has ended. Without the dues increase, AIPG probably would have gone bankrupt this year. Our Total Assets as of August 31, 1994 were $340,255. By August 31, 1998 they had declined to $218,123, but rebounded to $261,791 as of August 31, 1999. We are on the mend and, although we still have a long way to go, there will be no increase in National dues for 2000. Headquarters continues to look for ways to cut expenses beyond what has already been done through staff reductions and the Headquarters office move to a smaller, less expensive but adequately sized suite. Bill Siok’s review of the publications program since 1985 reveals that only five out of fifteen publications have earned a profit to date. Our financial controls must be upgraded as necessary, and the financial data generated must be thoroughly analyzed to determine what actions are required.

Regarding AIPG publications a new, more professional approach must be used in the future. A Marketing and Advertising Committee (M&AC), formed during 1999 with members experienced in publications marketing, will be responsible for determining the potential market for new AIPG publications, pricing them using book industry mark-up practices and effectively promoting their sale, mainly through major online book marketers such as Amazon.com and Barnes&Noble.com. (Administrative members are needed by M&AC, especially those with some experience in publications marketing and/or advertising. Please contact Headquarters or Chair Bob Colpitts.) This will require new publications with broad appeal to the educated layperson with an interest in things geologic and with attention-attracting titles. Better judgment as to what and how we publish is required. Subjects and titles must be capable of attracting large audiences. Pricing must be realistic and provide for profitability. The new Committee for Publication Review and Evaluation will be the filter through which all new AIPG publications must pass. This Committee’s responsibility is to recommend only publications that meet its stringent criteria to the Executive Committee. Fortunately, we have two potential “best sellers” in the pipeline: Environmental Risk and Liability Management for Corporations and Consultants by CFC Charles Fletcher and Evan Paleologos, coming late this year, and the second edition of The Citizen’s Guide to Geologic Hazards sometime next year. The latter will be marketed both online and through conventional channels. If we can’t make these two publications financially successful, the Institute may wish to give serious consideration to reducing our publications effort to TPG and an occasional necessary in-house publication.

Progress was made on a number of issues of interest during 1999:

• Political relations outreach at the DC Fly-In and the National Conference of State Legislators;
• AIPG supplied 14 CPG reviewers of research grant proposals to the National Science Foundation;
• An Earth Science Week project for 2000 is underway;
• Three officers attended the Annual Meeting of the European Federation of Geologists at Budapest in June, entirely at their own expense, and will participate in the First International Conference for Professional Geology at Alicante, Spain next summer;
• A Comity Initiative proposal has been made to the membership;
• Participation by two CPGs in a Water Resources Division, USGS Task Force examining competition issues; and
• An easy transition to a new Executive Director.

One issue that remains unresolved is the Draft Policy on Competition between Government and the Private Sector, published for comment in the June 1999 TPG. A number of public sector CPGs objected to the lack of balance, so the Executive Committee tabled this particular Draft. The membership of the responsible Subcommittee on Competition has been expanded to include public sector participants under a new Chair, Tyler Gass. A new statement is expected to be available for review during the first quarter of 2000 (see pages 11-14 of the November 1999 TPG for discussions of both sides of this issue).

As this has been a transitional year in many respects, some changes in past practices have been initiated to better distinguish AIPG as the true professional organization for geologists and as geology’s major advocate. It is time to start emphasizing the unique qualities which distinguish AIPG from the geoscience technical organizations and to help our membership better understand and appreciate how National and the Sections can be positive forces in enhancing their professional and economic lives.

Our new Annual Meetings Policy and manual are a beginning in this direction. We must make our Annual Meetings more meaningful and attractive as mini-vacation destinations to enhance attendance. Starting in 2002, whenever possible the Annual Meeting is to be held in pleasant, relaxing settings in communities or resort areas with qualities attractive to geologists and their families. Business districts of major cities, the sites of more than one unsuccessful meeting, generally should be avoided. While the Host Sections will retain considerable control over venue, program design, technical sessions, field trips, and social functions, National will play a larger role with more control than in the past. Every Annual Meeting will provide for sessions (2-3 hours in length) on Political Relations Activities and on Section Management/
Section Officer Training, plus a session (1-3 hours in length) on either Ethics or State Registration. A session for Students will be encouraged, if practical. National will provide major leadership and support for these sessions. By adding professional sessions and reducing technical sessions to some degree, we hope to make future Annual Meetings more relevant for a larger number of CPGs and to provide training and guidance on AIPG subjects of interest to them.

The long-delayed membership drive "Campaign 2001!" will be launched late this year and continue through 2001. Dawn Garcia will chair a reconstituted committee which will involve the active participation of most members of the 1999 and 2000 Executive Committees. CPG applications are way down, compared to 1998. This decline MUST BE turned around. Special emphasis is to be placed on Student recruitment and on the new Member and Registered Member categories for geologists who are not yet eligible for and/or do not seek certification but who do want affiliation with an effective advocacy organization for geologists. Two of the Presidential Certificates of Merit awarded at the 1999 Annual Meeting went to a faculty member and student leader whose work and dedication produced AIPG's Second Student Chapter at the Colorado School of Mines. A similar Certificate was awarded in 1996 in connection with our first Student Chapter's establishment at Wright State University. Students really appreciate the career guidance provided by practicing CPGs at Career Days and Student Days. The Student Chapters can become a major source of new Members and eventually CPGs. Award of the Presidential Certificates emphasizes the importance of Student Chapters to the Institute.

Our political relations and advocacy programs must continue and involve a greater portion of the membership. AIPG will have its fourth consecutive DC Fly-In during Spring, 2000 and will participate in the National Conference of State Legislators annual meeting in Chicago. A few Sections are planning, or may have already carried out, AIPG Drive-Ins during their State Legislature's session. While certification continues as a major AIPG function, our political relations and advocacy programs are increasingly becoming "AIPG's unique activity" in comparison to the geoscience technical societies. These societies play an invaluable role in helping us keep abreast of our science but simply are not designed for governmental and advocacy work, especially at the state level. More than any other organization, AIPG effectively represents all geoscientists to people in government and the public, something of increasing necessity and value in an increasingly competitive professional world.

The geoscience training of some CPG applicants during the past few years has caused increasing concern and problems for the Section and National Screening Committees and the Executive Committee. The classic geology course names are no longer used by many departments, making it difficult to assess the nature and quality of the 36 hours of geoscience education required for CPG. Instead course titles like "Geology and the Environment" are now common. This difficulty is compounded by the somewhat ambiguous nature of the "Recommended Courses for Degree in Geological Sciences" on page 3 of the CPG Application. Clarification, addition of qualifying courses, and a general tightening of the mandatory course list may be required. A new "Task Force for a Required Curriculum" was established at the Annual Meeting. A call for volunteers for this Task Force and a description of its mission will appear in a forthcoming issue of TPG.

Perhaps the most important action taken by the Executive Committee at the Annual Meeting was unanimous approval of a recommendation by the Task Force for Continuing Professional Development for a Certification Renewal Program for CPGs, based upon Continuing Education and Professional Participation. Some essential elements of the proposed Program are:

- It is not the intent of this proposal to de-certify any existing CPG in good standing by arbitrary imposition of new requirements for continuing education or Certification Renewal.
- Participation would be voluntary for all CPGs certified before the date of adoption of the enabling Bylaws; i.e. all existing CPGs.
- Participation would be mandatory for all new CPGs certified after the date of adoption of the enabling Bylaws.
- Participating CPGs in the Certification Renewal Program would maintain an Annual CRP Logbook supplied by Headquarters. Qualified Continuing Education and Professional Participation activities undertaken during the year would be recorded as completed. Each qualified Continuing Education and Professional Participation activity completed and recorded would receive an appropriate point value as defined in the Annual CRP Logbook.
- The Certification Renewal Period would be six years, with six Annual CRP Logbooks completed. A specified number of points in both Continuing Education and Professional Participation would have to be earned during the six-year Certification Renewal Program. (The exact number of points is still undecided.) Regardless, the requirements are designed to be helpful and will not be onerous. Most CPGs are probably already undertaking sufficient continuing education and professional participation activities (active membership in geoscience organizations, including AIPG, and voluntary community activities) to satisfy CRP annual requirements for most years.
- Participants seeking Certification Renewal and the associated upgrade to Certified Master Professional Geologist (CMPG) would file an application at the end of the six-year CRP period with Headquarters for Certification Renewal, together with their six Annual Logbooks and a fee to cover the associated Headquarters costs resulting from administration of the Program. One additional FTE employee will be needed at Headquarters for this purpose, so the CRP must be self-supporting. If the CRP was in existence now, the application fee would probably be in the $50 to $60 range. The application process for Certification Renewal would parallel that for CPG applications. Copies of the application and logbooks would be reviewed at the Section level, with recommendations for approval, rejection, or further investigation being made to the National CRP Screening Committee.
- Applicants rejected for Certification Renewal would retain their original CPG status. Applicants granted Certification Renewal would be recertified as Certified Master Professional Geologists for the duration of the new six-year Certification Renewal Program period. Based upon the date of original certification as a CPG, participation
in the new six-year CRP period would be voluntary or mandatory, as noted above.

This is only a brief review of the Certification Renewal Program. Some minor adjustments still must be made before a copy of the Proposal and Annual CRP Logbook can be published in TPG during the first quarter of 2000. As Task Force Chair, I will supply a more detailed article to TPG describing the Certification Renewal Program for publication in the interim. The membership will have the opportunity to vote for or against adoption of the Certification Renewal Program during the summer of 2000, probably on the same ballot used for the National Officer election.

A parallel recommendation to the Executive Committee by the Examination Subcommittee of the Task Force for Continuing Professional Development was tabled. Additional consideration of 1) whether AIPG should eventually require an examination for NEW CPG APPLICANTS and 2) the type of examination to be used has been requested by the Executive Committee. It is not anticipated that an examination proposal will be voted upon by the membership during 2000.

It has been my pleasure to serve as your President this past year. The major 1999 initiatives for more attractive and effective Annual Meetings, for a Certification Renewal Program and, hopefully, for a more effective Publications Program may bear real fruit in the coming years. Incoming President Pennington and President-Elect Fakundiny have declared their intention to continue the transition toward a stronger, more effective advocacy-focused AIPG that was initiated by Past-President Stephen Testa in 1998 and has continued through 1999. The support received from my Executive Committee, the Executive Directors and Headquarters staff, and most of the Chairs of the national Standing Committees was superb. Alaska Section deserves accolades for an excellent Annual Meeting in a beautiful setting. In closing, I thank all of you who have volunteered your time and effort to AIPG and your Sections during the year. Would that there had been more of you! The Institute is still a long way from having our problems behind us. PLEASE, if you are not active in the affairs and activities of your Section or the national organization, consider becoming involved as a Committee member, especially in Membership Development. I was a typical apathetic CPG for many years until I became involved in political relations activities with Colorado Section in 1990. This turned out to be an enjoyable and interesting experience and introduced me to a number of new friends and contacts. And look where I ended up! I’ve remained active at both the Section and National levels because I have recognized that:

- AIPG can make a difference!
- Individual CPGs can make a difference for themselves and other geologists by participation in AIPG activities and issues!
- This participation will put you in contact with many geologists of all disciplines whom you probably never would have met otherwise.
- Many will become your friends, co-workers, and associates, not just locally, but nationally and internationally. They will broaden your life and career and expand your horizons.
- The AIPG network can make this difference for you through your personal participation!

Get involved!

2000 Western Regional Meeting

The Pacific Section of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists (PSAAPG) and the Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE) are “Working In Concert” and invite you to submit an abstract for presentations to be given at the Western Regional Meeting (WRM) to be held June 19-22, 2000 at the Westin Hotel in Long Beach, California. Other participating professional societies include the PSSEPM, SEG, SPWLA, AEG, DPA, DEG, EMD and AIPG.

The technical focus of this first joint regional meeting between the PSAAPG and SPE is to demonstrate how petroleum technology is demanding further collaboration between earth scientists and engineers. The technical sessions will address exploration trends, recent E&P achievements, and the use of advanced technologies to further develop our bountiful oil and gas fields in the western United States. A new highlight is our plan to showcase our industry’s efforts to form lasting partnerships with our communities and schools.

Please submit your Abstract by completing the abstract form on the SPE Homepage at www.spe.org/events/2000wrm/callform.html. The abstract deadline is 10 December 1999. Authors will be notified in early January 2000.

Obtain more information on this event through the PSAAPG Homepage at www.west.net/~psaapg and the SPE Los Angeles Basin Section Homepage at www.laspe.org. Professional societies wishing to join our event should contact Don Clarke at 562-570-3915 or at doclarr@ci.long-beach.ca.us. We intend to give you a rewarding experience. Please join us!

Sincerely,

Scott Hara, Program Committee, Co-Chairperson, Telephone: 1-562-436-9918, E-mail: tidelands@laspe.org
Don Miller, Program Committee, AAPG Co-Chairperson, Telephone: 1-661-665-5464, E-mail: ddmiller@aeraenergy.com

Need Help Writing An Abstract??

If you’re the type who accomplishes technological feats but has a hard time writing about it, I will gladly help you write an abstract. With a few tips, you can have an abstract ready in no time. Ask for Lyman Handy at 714-525-6939 or e-mail me at lhandy@home.com.
MEETINGS, NOT REALLY BY CHANCE
A REPORT OF THE AIPG NATIONAL EXECUTIVE MEETING AND RELATED MEETINGS IN ALASKA

By Dorothy Richter, CPG-07033, and Lynn Kantner, CPG-06205,
1999 National Advisory Board Representatives

The Annual Meeting of AIPG always entails a formal, nearly week-long sequence of national Executive Committee and Advisory Board Meetings, and 1999 was no exception in that sense. What was exceptional, however, were the beautiful surroundings in which the meetings were held in Girdwood, Alaska. The Alaska Section is applauded for providing a lovely setting for some very down-to-earth business meetings.

National Executive Committee Meeting. The National Executive Committee (ExCom) met for about 10 hours on Sunday, October 3. President Fails presided. The entire ExCom, consisting of the six 1999 National Officers and four 1999 National Advisory Board Representatives, was present, as was Executive Director Siok. The meeting was also attended by several non-voting visitors, including various committee and task force members, some incoming 2000 National Officers, some candidates for the 2000 National Advisory Board, delegates of foreign societies, and other interested members. The business of AIPG is conducted at the ExCom meetings, and reports of the Officers and various committees and task forces are presented. Highlights of particular interest are listed below. Numerous other topics were discussed and are documented in more detail in the official meeting minutes by John Bognar, AIPG Secretary. The minutes are available from AIPG’s national office.

- Membership development will be pursued vigorously through an effort now spearheaded by Dawn Garcia. Dawn has developed a list of ideas and implementation plans for a significant membership drive. Specifically targeted in the drive will be new student chapters, new CPGs, new Registered Members, and new general interest members. Dawn will work with National and will closely coordinate with the Sections to increase membership in the Institute.
- Any person interested in working with Dawn and the Membership Development Committee is encouraged to contact her at dawngarcia@aol.com.
- A new Task Force for Required Curriculum was established to evaluate and suggest changes to the education requirements for certification by AIPG. The section and national screening committees have struggled with applications for CPG status from candidates with degrees in geology or related fields that do not include currently ‘recommended’ core geology courses. Many candidates want to substitute course titles that are vague and indicate interdisciplinary content for core geology courses, making it difficult for screening committees to evaluate the educational background of some candidates. AIPG’s current requirements are somewhat ambiguous and clarification is needed. The objective of the Task Force will be to provide clear guidance for both candidates and the screening committees.
- The economic realities of AIPG’s publications program were reviewed by Executive Director Siok. Bottom line — the publications program is deep in the red. Various options for restructuring the program were considered, including raising prices, increased marketing through internet sources, tighter controls on publishing costs, publishing some material on demand and/or making some material available online. The Task Force for Publication Review and Evaluation was converted to a Standing Committee to reflect the long-term nature of the program.
- The Task Force for Continuing Professional Development recommendations for a Certification Renewal Program based upon Continuing Education and Professional Participation were approved. Continuing professional development requirements are a fundamental hallmark of international professional certification organizations and are essential for AIPG’s certification to be regarded as meaningful in a dynamic professional world. The Task Force has already completed an immense amount of work, but the program is still under development. The Task Force recommends that the program be voluntary for CPGs certified prior to the date that the by-laws are changed to incorporate the program. The program will be mandatory only for CPGs certified after the by-laws are changed. Recertification would be performed on a six-year cycle, and successful completion of the program would result in an enhanced, as yet un-named, CPG status. AIPG’s 1999 President, Tom Fails, will continue as chairman of the Task Force.
- AIPG’s participation and support of the National Earth Science Week was discussed and ideas for enhancing that effort were raised.

1999/2000 Advisory Boards Joint Meeting. President-Elect Dennis Pennington chaired the 1999/2000 Advisory Boards Joint Meeting on Monday, October 4. This important meeting is attended by the incoming and outgoing ExCom and Advisory Board delegates from the Sections and involves sharing information and insights of the individual sections. So much information is exchanged that it is difficult to digest. Summary reports of ExCom activities were presented by the four 1999 National Advisory Board Representatives. Chairman Pennington summarized the recurrent themes gleaned from written section reports mailed to him prior to the meeting. Each section delegate present gave a brief oral report on the activities, issues, and recommendations of their particular section. The experiences of the sections are diverse, but common themes include the need to invigorate participation at the section level, cooperative relations with other local professional organizations, and difficulties of arranging meetings in sections with widely scattered members.

2000 Advisory Board Meeting. The section delegates met with the year 2000 National Officers, 1999 Vice President Font, Executive Director Siok, and interested visitors on Tuesday, October 5. 2000 President-Elect Fakundiny chaired the meeting. Candidates for the four National Advisory Board Representative positions on the 2000 ExCom made brief presentations prior to a vote by the section delegates. The four 2000 National Advisory Board Representatives elected are Marilyn A. Plitnik of the Alaska Section, James A. Jacobs of the California Section, William H. Hoyt of the Colorado Section, and William V. Knight of the Oklahoma Section.

Patrick Leahy, Chief Geologist of the USGS, made a presentation about current issues and programs of the USGS.
The Kentucky Paleontological Society (KPS) is opposed to any attempt to teach creationism or omit mention of evolution from public school instruction. Furthermore, evolution should be called "evolution" in curriculum guidelines and other documents; euphemisms such as "change over time" should be called "evolution" in curriculum guidelines and other documents; euphemisms such as "change over time" are intellectually dishonest for they attempt to conceal the terminology used by scientists.

Paleontology relies for its evidence on two different but historically related fields, biology and geology. Biological evolution is the central organizing principle of biology, understood as descent with modification. Evolution is equally basic to geology, because the pattern of fossil distribution in the rock record makes no sense without evolution. Evidence for the progressive replacement of fossil forms has been adequate to support the theory of evolution for over 100 years. Paleontologists may dispute, on the basis of the available evidence, the tempo and mode of evolution in a particular group at a particular time, but they do not argue about whether evolution took place. The record of the evolution of life is exciting, instructive, and enjoyable, and it is our view that everyone should have the opportunity and the privilege to understand it as paleontologists do.

Kentucky's students deserve and require a high-quality science education, grounded in scientific evidence and free of sectarian influence. The content of science courses should be determined by the standards of the scientific community.

Most people who subscribe to religious views have developed belief systems that are compatible with evolution. We fully respect the religious views of all persons, but we object to attempts to require any religious teachings as science.

Our Executive Committee approved this statement. We wish to make it clear that we do not restrict our membership to avowed evolutionists. We insist only that our members conduct themselves responsibly and safely when doing field work and collecting specimens.

The KPS encourages its members and other professional scientific groups to give support and aid to those classroom teachers who present the subject matter of evolution fairly and encounter community objection. We also encourage administrators and individual teachers to oppose the inclusion of nonscientific concepts in the science classroom.

American Geological Institute 2000-2001 CONGRESSIONAL SCIENCE FELLOWSHIP

The American Geological Institute is offering a Congressional Science Fellowship for the geosciences. The successful candidate will spend 12-16 months (starting September 2000) in Washington working as a staff member for a member of Congress or congressional committee. The fellowship is a unique opportunity to gain first-hand experience with the legislative process and make practical contributions to the effective and timely use of geoscientific knowledge on public policy issues.

Prospective applicants should have a broad geoscience background and excellent communications skills. Minimum requirements are a master's degree with at least three years of post-degree work experience or a Ph.D. at the time of appointment. Prior experience in public policy is not required, but a demonstrable interest in applying science to the solution of public problems is desirable. The fellowship's annual stipend is up to $42,000. Funding is provided by the AGI Foundation.

Interested candidates should submit a cover letter and a resume or curriculum vitae with three letters of reference to AGI Congressional Science Fellowship, 4220 King Street, Alexandria VA 22302-1502. For further details, visit <www.agiweb.org>, call 703-379-2480, or e-mail <govt@agiweb.org>. EOE

Application materials must be postmarked by Feb. 1, 2000.
A New Year with Old Challenges

William J. Siok, CPG-04773

There's already been enough, and will undoubtedly be much more, hyperbole about the millennium and the year 2000. I cannot imagine myself capable of matching the strident, excitable, promise-them-unimaginable-excitement and unforgettable-experiences pitches for New Year's Eve Celebrations welcoming in the next 1000 years. I can, however, imagine myself recognizing that although AIPG will continue into the next century, we must continue changing the way we conduct business if AIPG is to be a true representative and advocate for the profession into the new century.

There won't be any gala events or ballyhoo associated with our 37th year. We actually have much to show for our 36 years, including all the professional accomplishments discussed within these pages for years and the personal and professional ties each has established through the auspices of AIPG. These do not mean, however, that we are due for a respite or should entertain false expectations, least of all because there's a new 1000-year-period about to begin. In human terms, 1000 years is a VERY long time. In mundane organizational terms, it's also an enormous span. This being the case, it's appropriate for us as AIPG to think of the next five years.

Of course, the direction taken by AIPG is determined by the membership through its elected representatives locally and on the national level. I have observed as a former member of the Executive Committee and now as Executive Director the significance of active members' influence upon the decisions made by the Executive Committee. The work required to formulate, present articulately and convincingly, and implement a major program change is sometimes overwhelming. Members who, out of dedication to an ideal, devote time and energy to effect positive change in AIPG are truly to be admired. There have been such initiatives begun in 1999.

Tom Fails, CPG-03174, has spent a very significant part of his waking hours toiling on behalf of AIPG. This year, as President, he has prepared a concise, well reasoned and reasonable, proposal for Continuing Education related to AIPG Certification. This proposal was unanimously endorsed by the Executive Committee at our Annual Meeting in Girdwood for further consideration, refinement, and eventual presentation to the entire membership. The proposal, if accepted by the membership, will significantly increase the prestige and value of AIPG Certification. It has been stated elsewhere and often, that an objective of AIPG Certification is to eventually be recognized as a geologic excellence standard equivalent to board certification of physicians. The proposal developed by Tom Fails is a step towards achieving this goal. This is a program which will require much effort in 2000 and beyond.

Another critical endeavor underway is professional advocacy. AIPG has long supported professional registration of geologists and is exploring means of developing financial resources which can be used to support increased activities on behalf of geologists seeking registration. AIPG also wishes to support those sections whose jurisdictions have achieved the status but yet require an organization to continually promote the profession, even after registration has been implemented.

Related to advocacy is education. Advocacy can, in part, be defined as the education of non-geologists (and some geologists) regarding the role geologists and geology play in our society, economy, and culture. We're very effective about describing our career plight to each other, but not particularly adept at advising colleagues in other professions: engineers, other scientists, legislators, teachers, or students.

AIPG is working diligently to remedy this by actively participating in the annual NCSL (National Conference of State Legislators), by organizing our own annual Fly-In to Washington, D.C., and by supporting and promoting Registration and other professional initiatives in the States.

Related issues include reciprocity and comity among state jurisdictions and between the AIPG and sister organizations. The issue of reciprocity among state jurisdictions is complicated by sovereignty of states which correctly will not abrogate their prerogatives to other states. If the Registration statutes under which Professional Engineering is regulated is any guide, it is not likely geologists will enjoy a nationwide reciprocity among state jurisdictions. What we may see instead is a gradual development and acceptance of uniform Practice Standards which would serve as a basis for any state to accept a registration credential from a second state provided the applicant from the second state meets unique requirements of the first, including payment of the license fee. This issue will be the subject of discussion, debate, and political activism in years to come. Development of a reasonable approach to the comity/reciprocity dilemma also dictates that we geologists continue to work cooperatively with our professional engineering colleagues through AIPG National and our Sections.

Dennis Pennington, CPG-04401, AIPG President for 2000, has stated that two of his priorities for the new year will be renewed efforts to increase membership and non-dues revenue sources. In regard to the first goal, Dawn Garcia, CPG-08313, has accepted the role of Membership Committee Chair. The objective here is to appeal to more of our colleagues, particularly Registered Geologists, who are not affiliated with AIPG to join us in our efforts to educate the public and advocate for the profession.

In regard to non-dues revenue, we are reassessing our publications program with an eye to improving the bottom line. This includes consideration of cooperative agreements with entities that will provide AIPG with greater exposure, marketing, and return on investment. The existing Sponsorship Program has been moderately successful but in need of wider promotion, and AIPG efforts to procure grants will continue. The challenge for AIPG from a financial point of view is to develop resources that will enable us in years to come to decrease the dependency of our annual operating budget upon dues and to allow AIPG to devote more of the budget to advocacy activities.

AIPG initiatives which gradually take shape through the years are somewhat reflective of the evolving business and professional climate. AIPG now stands as a unique professional association dedicated to promoting geology. Of course, the organization is effective, or not, in direct proportion to the efforts made by its members. The path ahead is not so difficult to see, but what is difficult is discerning whether you, as Professional Geologists, are willing to help promote your own self-interest by your active participation in AIPG advocacy efforts.
AGI GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS PROGRAM MONTHLY REVIEW

Monthly update prepared by David Applegate, MEM-0002, and AGI GAP Director Margaret Baker

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Appropriations Process Spills Into New Fiscal Year

October 1st is the beginning of Fiscal Year (FY) 2000, but with 9 of 13 appropriations bills as yet unsigned, most federal agencies are experiencing deja vu all over again. A continuing resolution will keep them at FY 1999 levels for at least the next three weeks or until final bills can be signed. Among science-related bills, only Energy and Water (H.R. 2605)—funding most of the Department of Energy—had been signed by the September 30 deadline. The Interior (USGS), Commerce (NOAA), and VA/HUD (NSF, NASA, EPA) bills are all awaiting conferences to resolve significant differences between spending levels set by the House and Senate. After weeks of debate and filibusters, the Interior bill passed the Senate on September 23rd after voting to extend a moratorium on the promulgation of Minerals Management Service regulations on oil and gas royalty collection from federal lands. In addition to spending differences, the two houses must agree on provisions relating to grazing, mining, and other contentious issues. Scientists hope that the VA/HUD conference will adopt the spending levels for NSF and NASA set by the Senate, which are considerably higher than those emerging from the House where both agencies suffered substantial cuts.

USGS Re-Organization Takes Shape

U.S. Geological Survey Director Charles “Chip” Groat has initiated a series of structural changes in the Survey’s organization designed to break down barriers between the four discipline-based divisions and shift power to the three regions. In mid-September, Groat named new eastern, central, and western regional directors who will be titled Associate Director and will have both line and budget authority to a much greater extent than in the past. The chiefs of the geologic, national mapping, water resources, and biological resources divisions will also be re-titled as bureau-wide associate directors and shifted to the director’s office. A new Office of Outreach will house both congressional and public affairs and report directly to the director. For more on the reorganization, be sure to read the October and November issues of Geotimes, which will feature a two-part interview with Groat on his vision for the future of the Survey.

AGI Joins Other Societies In Support of Federal R&D

In early September, AGI joined with twenty-four engineering, scientific, and business associations to send letters to all members of Congress regarding the proposed budget cuts for science and technology programs. A letter from AGI President David Stephenson was bundled with letters from other society presidents in a show of broad support for science programs whose Fiscal Year (FY) 2000 budgets were cut by the House of Representatives. Organized by the Science, Engineering and Technology Working Group (SETWG)—which AGI co-chairs—the campaign drew attention to the role of federally funded research in the growing economy and the need for continued investment. The AGI letter focused on cuts to the National Science Foundation and NASA’s Office of Earth Science and also urged full support for the U.S. Geological Survey and geoscience programs in the Department of Energy.

AGI Letter to Kansas Governor Graves on Evolution Issue

On September 8th, AGI President David Stephenson wrote to Kansas Governor Bill Graves expressing support for the governor and the Kansas Geological Survey in their strong stance against the new state science standards that eliminate any mention of biological macroevolution, the age of the Earth, or the origin and early development of the universe. The letter includes a 1981 AGI position statement on evolution. Copies of this letter were also sent to the Kansas state school board. The letter is included in an AGI update at http://www.agiweb.org/gap/legis106/evolution.html.

On September 23rd, the presidents of the National Academy of Sciences (NAS), American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), and the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA) announced that they were denying the Kansas State Board of Education’s request to use portions of education documents developed by their organizations in the new Kansas science education standards. The denial was due to the failure of the Kansas standards to meet the claim that they “...embrace the vision and content” of those documents. The presidents otherwise dissociated themselves and their organizations from the Kansas standards. More at http://www.project2061.org/news-info/kansas.htm.

Proposed NTIS Elimination Raises Hackles

Concern has been raised in the geoscience community over an August 12 announcement by the Department of Commerce of plans to eliminate the National Technical Information Service (NTIS). NTIS serves as a clearinghouse of federal scientific and technical information. In 1987, Congress mandated that NTIS must support itself with user fees, but lower usage rates have led to increasing difficulty at covering costs. Because the decrease in use of NTIS has been attributed to increased Internet access of government documents, Commerce proposes to close NTIS, move its archive to the Library of Congress, and shift responsibility to federal agencies to make their own documents available through the Internet. On September 14th, the House Technology Subcommittee held a hearing at which witnesses reminded the subcommittee that many people still did not have access to the Internet and that many older federal documents are...
not available in electronic form. Among AGI member societies, the Geoscience Information Society has been particularly concerned by these developments. Testimony on the hearing is available at <http://www.house.gov/science/106/hearing.htm#Technology>. An update is available from the American Institute of Physics at <http://www.aip.org/enews/fyi/1999/fyi99.139.htm>.

National Research Council Releases Report on Mining

In last year's appropriations bill for the Department of the Interior, Sen. Harry Reid (D-NV) attached a provision requiring a study by the National Research Council of current Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and U.S. Forest Service hardrock mining regulations before BLM could finalize draft changes to its Section 3809 regulations. The NRC report was delivered to Congress on September 29th. Although generally supportive of the current state and federal regulatory framework, the report calls for a number of changes in the way these regulations are implemented and for adjustments in the rules themselves. The report emphasizes the need for better coordination between state and federal agencies responsible for mining regulation but endorses a case-by-case approach to permitting under the National Environmental Policy Act, recognizing the wide variation in environmental impacts of mining in different geological and biological environments. The report recommends an expansion of financial guarantee requirements to include all mining operations, not just ones of a certain minimum acreage. The report also calls for additional research into the impacts of mining on the environment. Language attached to a recent emergency supplemental appropriations bill requires a 120-day comment period on the Academy report before BLM may issue a final rule. A pre-publication copy of the NRC report is available on the web at http://books.nap.edu/catalog/9682.html.

Leinen to Head NSF Geosciences Directorate

On September 22nd, the National Science Foundation (NSF) announced that Margaret Leinen will be the next head of the Geosciences Directorate (GEO), which includes earth, ocean, and atmospheric sciences. She will also be responsible for coordinating environmental science and engineering programs at NSF. Leinen is currently dean of the Graduate School of Oceanography at the University of Rhode Island and interim dean of the College of the Environment and Life Sciences. According to an NSF press release, Leinen is a well-known researcher in paleoceanography and paleoecology, working on the history of biogenic and edolian sedimentation in the oceans and their relationship to global biogeochemical cycles and climate. Leinen will replace current GEO head Robert Corell, who has held that position since 1987, in January 2000. Corell has promised a smooth transition, noting that Leinen has been actively involved in the development of the directorate's GEO 2000 strategic plan. For more information, the NSF press release is available at http://www.nsf.gov/od/lpa/news/press/99/pa992.htm.

Washington Visits by AGI Member Society Leaders

Member society representatives on the AGI Government Affairs Advisory Committee followed up their biannual committee meeting with visits to officials at the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, Department of the Interior, USGS, and NSF. The visits were an opportunity to learn about recent developments at those agencies as well as to communicate issues and concerns of the geoscience community.

On September 27th and 28th, a delegation from the American Association of Petroleum Geologists led by AAPG President Ray Thomasson discussed the society's position statements with Members of Congress and staff, including House Energy and Mineral Resources Subcommittee Chairwoman Barbara Cubin (R-WY) and House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Bill Archer (R-TX).

The following day, Geological Society of America President Gail Ashley represented the geosciences at a meeting of science and engineering society presidents with NSF Director Rita Colwell to discuss agency priorities and budget. The presidents spent the afternoon on Capitol Hill meeting with House Science Committee Chairman James Sensenbrenner (R-WI), Science Committee ranking Democrat Ralph Hall (TX), and senior staff on the House and Senate Appropriations Committees.

New Congressional Science Fellows Take Their Place on Capitol Hill

Following several weeks of intensive orientation, geoscience congressional fellows have begun to accept placement offers with congressional offices. AGI fellow Eileen McLellan, a geoscience professor at the University of Maryland, will work for Sen. Ron Wyden (D-OR) on resource and land-use issues. Wyden is a strong supporter of the geosciences. Last year, he read a statement into the Congressional Record in support of the inaugural Earth Science Week, including a resolution adopted by the Association of American State Geologists. AGU fellow Brian Hannegan will work on climate issues for the majority staff of the Senate Committee on Energy and Mineral Resources, chaired by Sen. Frank Murkowski (R-AK). GSA Fellow Melody Brown Burkins will work for Sen. Patrick Leahy (D-VT) on environmental issues. AAAS Fellow Christy Johnson, also a geoscientist, is also working on environmental issues for Sen. Joe Lieberman (D-CT).

Staff/Intern Arrivals

AGI's Government Affairs Program is back up to full strength with the addition of Margaret Baker as a full-time program associate. Margaret is returning to AGI, having served as an AGI/AIPG summer geoscience policy intern in 1998. She graduated in May from Mt. Holyoke College, where she majored in geology and Asian studies, completing a thesis on Standard Oil's entry into China at the last turn of the century. September also saw the arrival of AGI/AAPG fall semester intern Alison Alcott, who is completing a master's degree at the University of Utah where she is applying structural geology to hydrologic systems in vicinity of Salt Lake City. A warm welcome to both!

New Material on Web Site

The following updates and reports were added to the Government Affairs portion of AGI's web site www.agi-web.org since the last monthly update:

- Kansas Science Board Decision Update (10-1-99)
- Geotimes Political Scene: Farewell to Congressman Brown (9/99)
- Update on Applying FOIA to Federal Grants (9-18-99)
- National Geologic Mapping Act Reauthorization Update (9-7-99)
- Geotimes News Note: Geologic Mapping Takes Congressional Stage (9/99)

Sources: AAAS, American Institute of Physics, Department of Commerce, E&E News, National Research Council, NSF, USGS. Please send any comments or requests for information to AGI Government Affairs Program at govt@agiweb.org.