



The Greater Pittsburgh Chapter of the Association of Environmental and Engineering Geologists is Proud to Welcome...

The 2018-2019 Richard H. Jahns Distinguished Lecturer in Applied Geology

Deborah Green

Tuesday February 19, 2019

Topic: Let's Talk - A Conversation on How We Communicate About Science

Venue: Hofbräuhaus Pittsburgh
2705 S Water St
Pittsburgh, PA 15203

Dinner Menu: Please select one of following options:

Wiener Schnitzel- *Classic fried pork cutlet served with German Potato Salad, Fried Cabbage, and Cranberry Sauce.*

Hofbräuhaus Würstteller- Grilled Bierwurst, Bratwurst, and Frankfurter served with Sauerkraut and Mashed Potatoes.

Dunkel Bourbon Chicken- Grilled Chicken Breasts topped with Homemade Dunkel Bourbon Glaze and served with Mashed Potatoes and Vegetables.

Heidelberger Rahm Spätzle- Spätzle with roasted Chicken Breast, Caramelized Onions, and Field Mushrooms in a Marsala Cream Sauce

Vegetarian Kasespätzle- Sautéed Spätzle with Swiss Cheese, diced Onions and Cream Sauce, topped with Frizzled Onions and Chives.

A cash bar with a great selection of craft beer will be available as well.

Agenda: Social Hour - 6:00 pm
Dinner - 7:00 pm
Program - 8:00 pm

Meeting Cost: Students- \$15 Cash and Checks made out to Greater Pittsburgh AEG
Members- \$35 will be accepted at the door
Non-Members- \$40

**Please RSVP by Tuesday, February 12th to greaterpittsburghhaeg@gmail.com
Please include your dinner selection with your RSVP**

For more information on Deborah, or the Richard H. Jahns Distinguished Lecture series,
visit [AEG's Website!](#)

ABSTRACT

LET'S TALK - A CONVERSATION ON HOW WE COMMUNICATE ABOUT SCIENCE

Like members of any group with a common passion, geologists love to talk with each other about our work. That communication is important – it's how we share the results of our research and experience, and build our knowledge base as individuals and as a profession. It's also well within our comfort zone.

There's been a troubling shift in recent years in how scientific information is received outside of our own community, by the public and policy makers. As scientists, we must assume responsibility for at least part of the negative perceptions; we've separated ourselves, and in some cases talked down to our audiences, to the extent that we've failed to convey the importance of environmental and engineering geology. Speaking with those who don't know or understand our geologic "language" isn't necessarily comfortable, and doing it well certainly isn't easy. But we need to embrace that pursuit, communicating science well, as much as we embrace the work itself. Advocating effectively for our work will make it possible to do more of the science we so value, and for society to realize that value. In this presentation, we'll talk about the challenges of conversing with non-scientists about science, and why we must face those challenges head on.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHY

Deborah Green is a licensed professional geologist with more than 30 years of experience in environmental and engineering geology projects across the United States. She holds degrees from the University of Rochester and the Center for Engineering Geology at Texas A&M. She's worked in consulting and industry, beginning her career at Ebasco Services working on site selection and environmental investigation and remediation projects, including RCRA-regulated and Superfund sites. She then took a job as a remediation project manager in industry where she coordinated teams of scientists, engineers, and contractors, and negotiated clean-up targets with state and federal regulatory agencies. For more than 20 years, Deborah was a self-employed consultant, working on varied projects, from RCRA site closures to water resource evaluations to paleoseismology studies. Now, semi-retired, she's written a novel whose protagonist is an engineering geologist working on a dam with a problematic foundation.

Her website, www.geologistwriter.com, is populated with short essays on geology, the natural world, and our interactions with them. Throughout her career, Deborah has been active in AEG, which she's been a member of for 36 years.



The Jahns Distinguished Lectureship, established in 1988, is sponsored by the Association of Environmental and Engineering Geologists and the GSA Engineering Geology Division. Its purpose is to provide funding for distinguished engineering geologists to present lectures at colleges and universities in order to increase awareness of students about careers in engineering geology. The lectureship is named in honor of Dr. Richard H. Jahns (1915- 1983), an engineering geologist who had a diverse and distinguished career in academia, consulting and government.