



Gulf Coast Association of Geological Societies

www.gcags.org

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Recap of the 2008 GCAGS Convention in Houston:

- The 2008 convention was unique in that it was a combination of several different organizations: the GCAGS, the Geological Society of America (GSA), the Soil Science Society of America, the American Society of Agronomy and the Crop Science Society of America (Tri-Societies). GCAGS joined with these groups because it was widely believed that the integrity of the GCAGS' technical program was in jeopardy with two geoscience conventions (GCAGS and GSA) scheduled so closely together in Houston.
- Initial accounting estimates indicate that GCAGS will make a net profit of approximately \$130,000 to \$135,000

2009 GCAGS Convention Preparations:

- The oral sessions will consist of 79 papers spread over three days.
- Sunday, from 8:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m., will be devoted to a symposium delving into the interesting topic of the Haynesville Shale developments in the Ark-La-Tex area.
- Registration is open and proceeding smoothly.
- Blocked hotel rooms are filling quickly.

2010 Convention Progress Report:

- GCAGS 2010 has signed contracts for the San Antonio Convention Center and has blocked rooms in three Hyatt Hotels.
- The Technical Program Committee is developing the theme and the session titles.

2011 Convention Progress Report:

- AMGP is making preparations for the 2011 convention in Veracruz, Mexico.
- The convention facility in Veracruz is available in October 2011.
- AMGP is in the process of reviewing hotel capacity and is working on transportation logistics.
- AMGP expects to be able to put together a solid technical program with the support of PEMEX.
- AMGP is also working on field trips for attendees and guided tours for spouses and guests.

Convention Insurance – A Problem with AAPG Coverage:

Background:

- At the mid-year meeting in 2007, the GCAGS Board decided that in 2008, GCAGS would begin taking advantage of the liability insurance provided by AAPG.
- The MOU between GCAGS and GEM requires that GCAGS secure adequate cancellation and liability insurance, in no case less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$2,000,000 in the aggregate, and further agrees to name the Consultant as an additional insured on such policy.

The Problem:

AAPG is unable to name the SGS, SMG (management group for the Shreveport Convention Center) the city of Shreveport, and GEM as additional insureds. (GCAGS was not aware of the problem 2008 because the insurance for the convention was handled by the GSA and the Tri-Societies)

- Buttine Insurance will provide liability insurance and cancellation coverage for the convention.

Changes to GCAGS Constitution and ByLaws:

Numerous changes to the GCAGS ByLaws were necessary to bring the Constitution and Bylaws up to date, to make clear clauses that may be misunderstood, and to reflect the reality of operations. The changes were passed at the mid-year meeting.

Hiring of New GCAGS Webmasters:

- In February 2009, a GCAGS signed a MOU with Odyssey International, LLC., regarding Webmaster Services
- Odyssey will update the www.gcags.org website on a regular basis, as needed, or on a monthly basis, whichever is sooner.
- Unless the host society for the convention indicates in advance that alternative arrangements are preferred, Odyssey will provide webmaster services for the annual convention website

Maps in Schools:

- Since the Annual Board meeting in October 2008, the Mississippi and Southeastern Geological Societies accepted the \$1000 seed money.
(Austin, South Texas, Houston, Lafayette, Shreveport, Alabama and New Orleans took advantage of the offer previously)
- 3/31/2009 was the deadline for Maps in Schools seed money for affiliated societies.

2009 GCAGS Honors and Awards:

- Distinguished Service: Arthur Johnson (NOGS)
- Outstanding Educator: Stephen Nelson (NOGS)
- Teacher of the Year: Stef Paramoure (STGS)

2009 GCAGS Faculty Grant Program - Recommendations for Funding

- Amy Weislogel-\$10,000.00 - University of Alabama
Geometry of Weld-Flanking mini-basin Margin Outcrop based on Modeling of the Paleogen Viento Formation western Gulf Coast, NE Mexico
- Gregg Davidson. \$5,000.00 – University of Mississippi

Remobilization of Chemically persistent contaminants from Riparian Wetlands: Are short term studies adequate to document contaminate mitigation?

2009 GCAGS Student Grant Program - Recommendations for Funding

- 20 proposals were recommended for funding
 - 4- \$2,000
 - 5- \$1,500
 - 9- \$1,000
 - 2- \$500
- Total funding- \$25,500.00

Finance:

- GCAGS is sound financially with approximately \$560,000 in CDs and \$105,000 in ready cash.
- The estimated annual income from the CDs is about \$25,000.
- The 2009 GCAGS budget shows that the core expenses and anticipated income are essentially the same as previous years.
- However, a significant budget wildcard is income from the conventions. For the past several years GCAGS has had sufficient profit from the conventions to fund the Student Grants and other optional programs. However, if GCAGS has a couple of years of only \$25,000 profit or less, then GCAGS will have to modify the programs or dip into the CD's. The Convention needs to figure into their budget a minimum of \$25,000 profit for GCAGS in the years going forward.

Publications Sales Report:

- GCAGS received a semiannual payment of \$11,126.25 from the BEG for sales of GCAGS publications (from July 1 through December 31, 2008)
- Member societies also received semiannual checks, as follows:

| | |
|------------------|----------|
| ○ Alabama | \$11.25 |
| ○ Austin | \$989.33 |
| ○ Corpus Christi | \$669.00 |
| ○ Houston | \$939.75 |
| ○ Lafayette | \$49.50 |
| ○ Mississippi | \$391.88 |
| ○ New Orleans | \$694.50 |
| ○ South Texas | \$588.08 |

Imperial Barrel Award Competition:

- The GCAGS region held its Imperial Barrel Award Competition (IBA) on Friday, April 3rd.
- Five teams competed including:
 - Louisiana State University,
 - Texas A&M University,
 - University of Houston,
 - University of Louisiana at Lafayette
 - University of Texas at Austin.

- Results
 - 1st place: Texas A&M University (\$3000)
 - 2nd place: University of Texas at Austin (\$2000)
 - 3rd place: University of Houston (\$1000)
- Texas A&M will move on to represent the GCAGS region in the competition at the AAPG National Convention in Denver.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William R. Downs". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "William" and last name "Downs" clearly distinguishable.

William R. Downs
GCAGS President, 2009