

# **Report on *Natural Resources Research***

June 2, 2005

EMD continues to participate with the International Association for Mathematical Geology (IAMG) in publishing the journal *Natural Resources Research* (NRR), which is produced quarterly. Due to slow inflow of articles, the Chief Editor has had some difficulty in getting issues out on time.

NRR has a very short turnaround from initial submission of an article until acceptance and publication. Typically, this time is only 6 months, sometimes less if an approved article needs little or no editing. I have not done a survey of geological publications, but I expect that this short turnaround time is one of the shortest, if not the shortest, available for a refereed journal.

EMD's main forms of support for the journal take the form of 1) subscriptions by EMD members, at the same cost as IAMG members, and 2) solicitation and submission (directly and indirectly) of papers for potential publication in NRR. All subscriptions are handled through IAMG. All submissions go directly to the Chief Editor rather than through me or other EMD leaders. EMD has no financial exposure on this journal, making it essentially a no-cost endeavor for EMD beyond volunteer time involved.

In an effort to improve EMD's participation in the journal in terms of getting papers submitted on EMD topics, I have exhorted the EMD leaders a number of times, usually at semi-annual meetings and by e-mail, to solicit papers from colleagues, co-workers, and others whom they may know in EMD fields of research and practice. A couple attempts to put together special issues of NRR from past AAPG annual meetings fell through in the past year due to difficulties with authors.

Recently, as part of EMD efforts on the 2005 AAPG Annual Meeting in Calgary, Alberta, I have been working on contacting session chairs for EMD-sponsored oral and poster sessions to ask them if they would be willing to try putting together one or more special issues of papers for NRR from their sessions. I did not think of this far enough ahead of the meeting to get such special issues, if any might be forthcoming, in process well before the annual meeting. However, we hopefully can find at least one or two groups of session chairs and authors who are willing to work on special issues or at least submit individual papers this year.

If EMD and its leaders are unable to improve both submissions of articles and subscriptions by members, there is the possibility that EMD's participation in this journal could be in jeopardy or that the journal could reduce or stop publication due to lack of articles. Technical councilors in particular need to encourage their committee members and colleagues in their topical EMD fields to participate in NRR by submitting articles. Rebecca Dodge has made contacts with some student chapters of AAPG in the Eastern United States and has encouraged professors and students at those colleges to submit articles to NRR. I and the Chief Editor would be very grateful if other EMD leaders similarly could provide us with some similar help in finding and encouraging potential authors.

I am working on additional information on NRR to provide for the EMD website, which hopefully will give the journal some additional exposure and recognition within at least AAPG. This will include information for authors, a listing of past articles, and links to IAMG and Kluwer Publishers.

This constitutes my report for the second half of the 2004-2005 AAPG administrative and fiscal year. I welcome any questions, comments, and active involvement in soliciting papers from the EMD leaders and members.

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Deputy Editor, NRR