



THE GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY  
OF AMERICA

Cordilleran Section

## ***PLATES 2011 (Issue no. 12):*** **Cordilleran Section Newsletter**

Thanks to members for their continued support of the Section, which continues to be the largest (by far), and to remain financially healthy. With a ~40% increase in section membership, our income from member dues has increased from ~\$6000 to >\$10,000. These funds help to support student travel to meetings and provide cash awards for student presentations. Please read on to find out what's happening in the Section!

### **Message from the Chair**

Greetings from the flatlands! Although I am a resident of the South-Central Section, my geologic roots are, and will continue to be in the Cordilleran Section. This is an exciting time for the Section, with greater emphasis on the entire Cordillera, from Alaska to Mexico, and Hawaii of course! Through the efforts of past-Chair Luca Ferrari, the Mexico connection was strengthened at our joint meeting with the Rocky Mountain Section in Logan, Utah. This connection will be developed further at our next Section meeting, which will be in Querétaro, Mexico, and will provide the opportunity to interact with many of our Mexican colleagues in field and conference settings. The joint meeting in Logan was a great success and I want to express my thanks to the meeting organizers and participants. We hope to see all of you in Querétaro, where we'll be making plans for the 2013 Section meeting, to be held in Fresno. Lastly, it is a pleasure to welcome Jonathan Miller (San Jose State) as our current Vice-Chair. See you in Minneapolis in October and Mexico at the end of March!

### **Section Officers and Nominations**

We are soliciting names for the next Vice-Chair

(a 1-year term, followed by 1-year Chair and Past-Chair terms). Nominations can be sent to Nominating Committee Chair Jonathan Miller by email ([jonathan.miller@sjsu.edu](mailto:jonathan.miller@sjsu.edu)).

*Current Management Board members:*

**Chair:** Calvin Barnes ([cal.barnes@ttu.edu](mailto:cal.barnes@ttu.edu))

**Vice-Chair:** Jonathan S. Miller

([jonathan.miller@sjsu.edu](mailto:jonathan.miller@sjsu.edu))

**Secretary-Treasurer:** Rod Metcalf

([rod.metcalf@unlv.edu](mailto:rod.metcalf@unlv.edu))

**Past-Chair:** Luca Ferrari ([luca@unam.mx](mailto:luca@unam.mx))

**Paleontological Society Representative:**

Stephen Schellenberg ([schellenberg@geology.sdsu.edu](mailto:schellenberg@geology.sdsu.edu))

## **2011 Joint Cordilleran-Rocky Mountain Section Meeting, Logan Utah, 18-20 May, 2010**

The 107<sup>th</sup> Cordilleran Section meeting was held at the Riverwoods Conference Center in Logan, Utah as a joint meeting with the Rocky Mountain Section. The meeting was hosted by the Department of Geology at Western Washington University (Cordilleran) and the Department of Geology at Utah State University (Rocky Mountain). Over 700 registrants enjoyed a vibrant meeting with strong sessions and lively discussions. A total of 346 presentations (oral and poster) were made in 32 technical sessions, 17 of which were Theme Sessions. The meeting included eight successful field trips and sessions of the popular Shlemon Mentors Program in Applied Geoscience and the John Mann Mentors in Applied Hydrogeology Program for student members. General Meeting Co-Chair Wendy Bohrsen and her colleagues at Western Washington University (Lisa Ely and Jeffrey Lee) and Co-Chair John Shervais and his colleagues at Utah State University (Joel Pederson, Jim Evans and Thomas Lachner) are to be commended for organizing a highly successful meeting. This was truly a collaborative effort between the organizing committees representing the two sections and stands as a model for future joint section meetings.

The section continued to support a good number

of students who attended the meeting. A total of 151 students presented results of their research at the meeting. Wendy Bohrson coordinated a panel of 39 judges of student talks and posters. The quality of student work was impressive and choosing the winner was not an easy task. Awardees received both monetary awards (ranging from \$200 to \$50) and certificates from the Society. This year we awarded eleven awards in four categories:

### **Grad Oral**

1st place: **Anne Hayden**, Utah State University - *LINKING THE HOLOCENE FLUVIAL HISTORY OF THE UPPER ESCALANTE RIVER, S. UTAH TO REGIONAL RECORDS USING OSL AND RADIOCARBON*

2nd place: **Jennifer Gifford**, University of Florida, - *GEOCHEMISTRY AND GEOCHRONOLOGY OF MID- TO LOWER CRUSTAL GRANITIC XENOLITHS FROM THE GREAT FALLS TECTONIC ZONE*

### **Grad Poster**

1st place: **Zachary Anderson**, U.S.G.S., Flagstaff - *STRUCTURAL AND KINEMATIC ANALYSIS OF MIOCENE ROCKS, BLACK CANYON, ARIZONA AND NEVADA*

Its a tie for 2nd place:

**Joseph Goshorn-Maroney**, Western Washinton University - *CLIMATE AND KINEMATICS OF NORTH CASCADES ROCK GLACIERS*

**Rachael Hunt**, Central Washington University - *DOCUMENTING THE ORIGIN OF COMPOSITIONAL DIVERSITY OF SUBDUCTION ZONE MAGMATISM, ALICUDI, AEOLIAN ARC (SOUTHERN TYRRHENIAN SEA, ITALY) USING IN SITU PLAGIOCLASE DATA*

3rd place: **Mort Larsen**, Montana State University - *STRUCTURAL INVERSION OF THE SOUTHERN MADISON-GRAVELLY ARCH BY THE HEBGEN-RED CANYON NORMAL FAULTS, SW MONTANA*

### **Undergrad Oral**

1st place: **Jacob Cammack**, Fort Lewis College - *NEW INSIGHT INTO VOLATILE*

*SOURCES AND MAGMATIC PROCESSES OF ALKALINE ROCKS IN THE NAVAJO VOLCANIC FIELD FROM CHLORINE ISOTOPES AND CHLORINE-FLUORINE TRENDS*

2nd place: **Christopher Spencer**, Brigham Young University - *USING LU-HF ISOTOPES IN ZIRCONS FROM PALEOPROTEROZOIC BASEMENT OF UTAH: NEW CONSTRAINTS ON THE TECTONO-MAGMATIC EVOLUTION OF THE FARMINGTON CANYON AND SANTAQUIN METAMORPHIC COMPLEXES*

### **Undergrad Poster**

1st place: **Ben Parks**, Carleton College - *EVOLUTION OF THE PRECAMBRIAN ROCKS OF YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK (YNP): HIGH GRADE METAMORPHIC ROCKS AT GARNET HILL*

2nd place: **Jessica Bruns**, California Polytechnic University-Pomona - *RARE EARTH MINERALIZATION OF SOUTHERN CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA*

3rd place: **Brad Pitcher**, Central Washington University - *CRUSTAL ASSIMILATION IN THE RECENT MT. ETNA MAGMA PLUMBING SYSTEM: EVIDENCE FROM IN SITU PLAGIOCLASE TEXTURAL AND COMPOSITIONAL DATA*

## **2012 Section Meeting 29–31 March, Querétaro, Mexico**

Geology does not stop at the border. Take the opportunity to present your work and learn about the Geology of the southern Cordillera at the 108<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Section, which will be hosted by Center of Geoscience and the Institute of Geology of the National Autonomous University of Mexico (Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México; UNAM) in Querétaro, Mexico, at Hotel Misión Juriquilla.

A great and diverse lineup of theme sessions and field trips has already been organized. For more information look for the first announcement in the November issue of GSA Today and at: [www.geosociety.org/Sections/cord/2012mtg/](http://www.geosociety.org/Sections/cord/2012mtg/) or [www.geociencias.unam.mx/cordillerano/](http://www.geociencias.unam.mx/cordillerano/)

Abstract deadline is 12 January 2012.

*Meeting Co-Chair:* Luca Ferrari (luca@unam.mx)  
Teresa Orozco (torozco@geociencias.unam.mx)