



THE
GEOLOGICAL
SOCIETY
OF AMERICA®

CORDILLERAN
SECTION



PLATES 2015 (Issue no. 13) Cordilleran Section Newsletter

2014-2015 Cordilleran Section Officers

Chair: Diane Clemens-Knott

Vice-Chair: Andy Barth

Secretary-Treasurer: Rod Metcalf

Past-Chair: Paul Umhoefer

Incoming Vice-Chair: Kathleen Surpless

Message from the Chair

The “Cord-Board” extends a sincere thanks to all those who have hosted and helped with past section meetings. Largely as the result of their efforts, and with the support of the 5.5K-strong membership, the Cordilleran Section remains intellectually vibrant & financially stable.

Welcome to the long-awaited 13th issue of PLATES! Despite the publication hiatus, the Cordilleran Section board has been steadily working behind the scenes to keep the Section moving forward. With less than 2 years of lead-time, our most pressing task was to identify hosts for the 2016 meeting. Our plea was answered by a multi-institution host consortium: Jade Star Lackey will serve as Conference Chair, with Colin Robins and Robert Gaines, all from The Claremont Colleges, along with Brian Kraatz (Western University of Health Sciences), Joan Fryxell (Cal State San Bernardino) and Hilary Lackey (Mt. San Antonio College). We’re intrigued with this collaborative design, and think it might serve as a model for future meetings involving hosts at smaller, but neighboring, geoscience institutions.

With 2016 taken care of, we were able to line up future hosts, giving them ample time to work meeting organization into their long-range Departmental goals. Cal State Northridge claimed **Spring 2020**, following up on their 2001 Universal City meeting, and making that Department one of our few repeat-hosts. **Spring 2019** will take the Section to Portland, OR, courtesy of another repeat-host, Portland State University (1996). Northern Arizona University (organized by the outgoing chair of the Management Board, Paul Umhoefer) and Arizona State University will host the **2018** Section Meeting in Flagstaff, AZ, a joint meeting with the Rocky Mountain Section. Which brings us to May 2017: pack your snorkels and hiking boots, and we’ll look forward to seeing you in Honolulu, Hawaii, hosted by the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Expect field trips to the neighboring islands—more details coming soon from Craig Glenn, the **Honolulu 2017** Conference Chair. Contact information for other future meetings is posted on the GSA website. **Aloha!**

Year	Meeting Site	Year	Meeting Site
1989	Spokane, WA	2005	San Jose, CA
1990	Tucson, AZ	2006	Anchorage, AK
1991	San Francisco, CA	2007	Bellingham, WA
1992	Eugene, OR	2008	Las Vegas, NV
1993	Reno, NV	2009	Kelowna BC
1994	San Bernardino, CA	2010	Anaheim, CA
1995	Fairbanks, AK	2011	Logan, UT
1996	Portland, OR	2012	Queretaro, MX
1997	Kona, HI	2013	Fresno, CA
1998	Long Beach, CA	2014	Bozeman, MT
1999	Berkeley, CA	2015	Anchorage, AK
2000	Vancouver, BC	2016	Ontario, CA
2001	Universal City, CA	2017	Honolulu, HI
2002	Corvallis, OR	2018	Flagstaff, AZ
2003	Puerto Vallarta, MX	2019	Portland, OR
2004	Boise, ID	2020	Northridge, CA

Don't let the January 5, 2016 deadline for submitting abstracts for the April 4-6 Ontario meeting catch you off-guard. Field trip information will be posted soon.

Hope to see you there!

2016-2017 Board Nominations

We’re soliciting nominations for the next Vice-Chair (1-year term, followed by 1-year Chair & Past-Chair terms) and the next Secretary-Treasurer (4-year term starting 2017-18; renewable once). Please send nominations to Kathleen Surpless, Nominating Committee Chair (ksurpless@trinity.edu), by February 1, 2016.

Behind the Scenes

Most of the Board's efforts go towards maintaining the cycle of section meetings: first searching for hosts, then focusing on our student members, by providing grants and awards (see right). This coming September the Section will support undergraduate Annika Deurlington of Claremont-McKenna College to represent us at the AGI-hosted Geosciences Congressional Visit. Annika will share details of her experience with students attending the 2016 Ontario meeting. And another student, to be nominated by the 2016 Ontario Organizing Committee, will serve as the 2015-16 Student Representative to the Cordilleran Management Board.

In addition, GSA Management periodically asks the Cord-Board to nominate Cordilleran members to Society-wide committees. This year Monica Gower was selected to replace former GPPC Chair Jeff Rubin on the Geology and Public Policy Committee; additionally, Scott Burns will serve as an at-large member. The Section continues to provide financial support to GSA's On-to-the-Future initiative, which supports attendance of a diverse student cohort at their first annual meeting, and this fall we will help fund attendance of graduate student Nicole Knight at the Baltimore Annual Meeting where she will represent the Cordilleran Section on the GSA Student Advisory Council.

One last honor for the Board is the annual recognition of recently deceased Cordilleran members. It's a bittersweet reminder that we all stand on the shoulders of giants.

Emphasizing student travel support to section meetings makes it difficult to provide much travel support to the Annual GSA meetings. The Cord-Board matches travel funds donated by section members on their fall registration forms--a pool which typically provides registration fee waivers for many student members requesting travel assistance. ***This year, a generous donation from an anonymous Cordilleran section member will triple the travel assistance for Cordilleran student members to Annual GSA meetings during the next four years!*** Given the clear value of meeting participation, as well as the unmet need, please consider supporting student travel to *both* the Cordilleran and Annual GSA meetings.

Hope to see YOU in ONTARIO, California in APRIL 2016!

2015 Student Presenter Awardees

Undergraduate Poster

Kyle Milke (U Alaska Fairbanks) TRANSPORT MECHANISMS OF METAL-BEARING HISTORIC MINE TAILINGS IN A SEMI-ARID ENVIRONMENT

Undergraduate Oral Presentation

Riley Witte (U Alaska Fairbanks) EVALUATING POTENTIAL FOR RECOVERY OF TE AS A BYPRODUCT OF AU EXTRACTION AT THE GOLDEN SUNLIGHT MINE (WHITEHALL, MT)

Graduate Oral Presentations

Nicole Knight (U Alaska Fairbanks) AN ASSESSMENT OF TELLURIUM IN SEMI-ARID MINE TAILINGS AT DELAMAR, NEVADA: IMPLICATIONS FOR HUMAN AND ECOSYSTEM HEALTH

Benjamin Johnson (West Virginia University) EARLY PALEOZOIC ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTH SLOPE SUBTERRANE: EVIDENCE FROM AN ACCRETIONARY COMPLEX EXPOSED IN THE NORTHEASTERN BROOKS RANGE, ALASKA

Graduate Poster

Gabriela Ferreira (Portland State University) ARSENIC MOBILIZATION FROM SILICIC VOLCANIC ROCKS IN THE SOUTHERN WILLAMETTE VALLEY

Student Support Report

Thanks to the support of our members & the GSA Foundation, we have continued to support student travel to the Cordilleran Section meetings. Travel to section meetings is a particular challenge, given the vast portion of North America housed in the Cordilleran Section. Over each of the last 5 years the Section has allocated \$13 to \$18K for travel of student author-presenters. Each year, between 18 and 33 student members received travel grants of \$350 to \$1000.

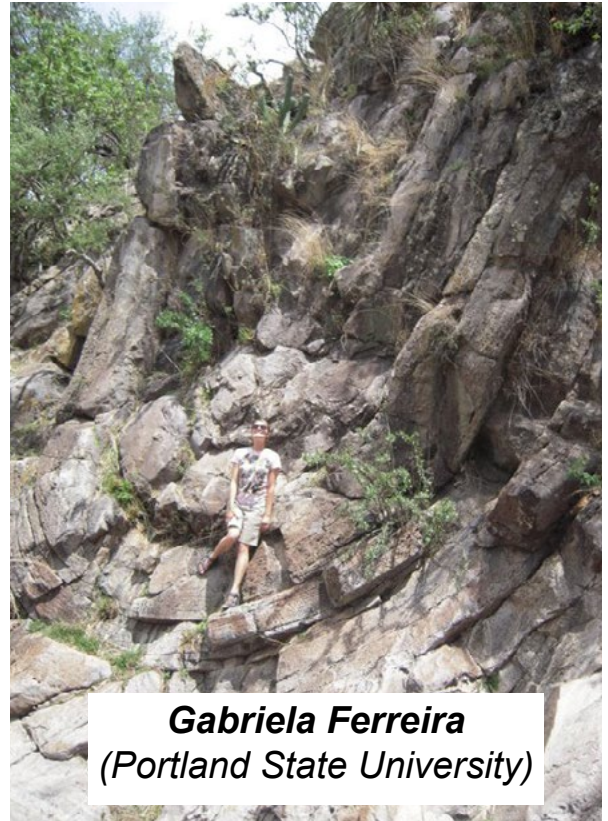
Anchorage, Alaska--Student Presentation Awardees--May 2015

Undergraduate Oral Presentation

Riley Witte (U Alaska Fairbanks)
fieldwork in Kamchatka



Graduate Poster



Gabriela Ferreira
(Portland State University)



Ben Johnson (West Virginia University) NE
Brooks Range with folded limestone in the
Kayak shale just bellow the Lisburne Group

Nicole Knight (U Alaska Fairbanks)
*in Delamar, Nevada collecting wind
measurements to assess metal(loid) transport*

Graduate Oral Presentation co-awardees

