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Recent announcements of interest to the NS community (conferences, academic positions, graduate student opportunities etc.) can be found at the AGU NS-Focus Group Web Page: <http://nsg.agu.org>

AGU NS Membership as of January 2009:

Primary affiliation: 620 members; Secondary: 1754 members

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1. AGU 2009 Joint Assembly

The 2009 AGU Joint Assembly will be held May 24-27 in Toronto, Canada.

Information about the meeting can be found at <http://www.agu.org/meetings/ja09>.

1.1 Sessions and Abstract Submissions

Forty-four NS abstracts were submitted to four NS sessions. NS Focus Group & Hydrogeophysics Sessions are:

Near Surface Geophysics General Contributions, Posters Near-Surface Geophysics - Back to Basics: Inversion of Electrical Resistivity Imaging Data, Workshop format Advancing the Use of Electrical Resistivity and Electromagnetic Methods for Near-Surface Applications, Oral Near Surface Geophysics for Applications in Civil Engineering, Oral and Poster

Hydrogeophysics: The State of the Science Contributions of Geophysical Measurements to Hydrogeological Models

1.2 Monday, May 25, Evening Social at AGU JA (organizer Louise Pellerin) Come join your friends and colleagues of the Hydrology Session and NS Focus Group on Monday, May 25th at Overdraught Irish Pub

(www.theoverdraught.ca) 156 Front Street West (the Convention Centre is 255 Front Street West, so it is just a block east and across the street), Toronto, ON M5J 2L6, Canada, (416) 408-3925 We have space reserved from 6-8(9+) PM to enjoy pub food, beer (pay your own way) and each other's company. Look forward to seeing you!

1.3 Student Social Event (from Elliot Grunewald) Jess Reeves of Stanford University will be organizing a casual student social event one evening during the Toronto AGU Joint Assembly. Details are still being arranged but look for an announcement on the student website and in the newsletter next month. Jess is a Toronto native, so you will be in good hands and should have a great time! Remember also that students are encouraged to attend the broader NS social event on Monday May 25 at the Overdraught Irish Pub.

2. Choose our AGU NS LOGO!

We are having a NS FG logo competition that was kicked off at the Fall Meeting luncheon in San Francisco!

- i) Design a logo and submit to pellerin@ak.net. Submissions will be open until 14 April
 - ii) View the submitted logos at http://www.agu.org/focus_group/nsg/logo.html
 - iii) And, follow online instructions to vote for your favorite logo. Voting is open from 16 April until May 15.
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3. Society of Exploration Geophysicists News

3.1 SEG 2009 Houston, Texas, 29-30 October - Abstract Submission Deadline April 8.

The Near Surface Geophysics Section would like to invite you to submit an Expanded Abstract for the 2009 SEG International Exposition and 79th Annual Meeting in Houston, Texas, 25-30 October, 2009. The deadline to submit an abstract is 8 April 2009. Please visit the website <http://abstracts.seg.org/> for all abstract submission details. If you have any questions or suggestions please do not hesitate to email Jan van der Kruk (j.van.der.kruk@fz-juelich.de). Contributions from all Near Surface and Environmental Geophysics disciplines and from all parts of the world are desired. We encourage paper submissions which emphasize near surface geophysics applied to groundwater resource evaluation, mine dewatering, environmental characterization, engineering evaluation, seismic and geologic hazards assessment, as well as advancements in borehole, surface and airborne geophysical technologies and processing for near surface applications.

In addition to the Near Surface Geophysics (NSG) technical sessions, there will be a Post-Convention workshop on Near Surface Seismology and Ground Penetrating Radar, organized by Rick Miller and John Bradford.

Students are encouraged to apply for one of the multiple NSGS \$500 travel grants to attend SEG 2008. See <http://nsgs.seg.org/travelg.htm> for details. If you are not a member of the SEG-NSG Section, please consider joining (<http://nsgs.seg.org/join.htm>).

3.2 TLE Special Issue on Hydrogeophysics The October 2009 issue of SEG's The Leading Edge will showcase articles on hydrogeophysics. Articles for consideration will be accepted until June 17. For more information contact Rick Miller (rmiller@kgs.ku.edu) or the editorial calendar page of TLE.

3.3 Call for Award Nominations

Harold Mooney Award -- The Harold Mooney Award is presented by the NSG Section during its reception and dinner at the SEG annual meeting. The honoree is chosen by his or her peers through nominations from the membership and recommendation to the NSG Section Executive Committee.

The award is presented to an individual in recognition of long-term, tireless, and enthusiastic support of the near-surface geophysics community through education, outreach efforts, professional service, or development of opportunities with other professional disciplines that employ geophysics.

Frishknecht Leadership Award -- The Frank Frischknecht Leadership Award is jointly presented by the NSG Section and the Environmental and Engineering Geophysical Society (EEGS). The award alternates (on an approximately 18-month interval) between the SAGEEP meeting and the NSG Section's banquet at the SEG annual meeting. This year it will be presented at the NSG Section's banquet. The Frank Frischknecht Leadership Award is established to recognize an individual who shows extraordinary leadership in advancing the cause of near-surface geophysics.

For more information see <http://nsgs.seg.org/award.htm>. Send nominations to Larry Bentley (Treasurer NSGS) by email (lbentley@ucalgary.ca) or snail mail (Department of Geoscience, University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta T2N 1N4, Canada). The nomination should contain the name, title and affiliation of the candidate along with a statement describing the reasons for the nomination. Nominations should be received by Monday September 15, 2009 for full consideration.

4. Environmental and Engineering Geophysical Society News: March Issue of FastTIMES Published Online

EEGS is pleased to announce publication of the March issue of FastTIMES, magazine for the near-surface geophysical sciences. This issue features seven technical articles on Geotechnical Geophysics. It is available for download as a low- and high-resolution pdf document (viewable with the free Acrobat Reader) from the EEGS website at www.eegs.org/fasttimes/latest.html. It is best to download the document and view it outside of a web browser with Acrobat. To take full advantage of the electronic format, we encourage its distribution to a wide audience. If you know of someone who might enjoy reading FastTIMES but may not be on the distribution list, feel free to forward the document or web link to them.

EEGS is interested in FastTIMES comments and suggestions. Further, we are always interested in content for the next (June 2009) issue! Please send your submissions to a member of the editorial team - Moe Momayez (moe.momayez@arizona.edu), Jeff Paine (jeff.paine@beg.utexas.edu), or Roger Young (ryoung@ou.edu). Please direct advertising inquiries to Jackie Jacoby (staff@eegs.org).

5. Call for Papers: EAGE Near Surface Geophysics Special Issue on Student Based Research.

Abstract deadline: 1st July 2009

Students at both undergraduate and postgraduate level undertake a large majority of the most novel, forward-looking research work conducted in the near-surface geophysics discipline. Such work is pivotal for the development of the subject but, unfortunately, much of it remains unpublished or, at best, confined to dissertations, theses or technical reports. In this Special Issue on Student-Based Research we aim to provide a showcase for the best in student-lead work and encourage current undergraduate and postgraduate students to submit high-quality research papers to the special issue as lead or major co-authors. Papers with non-student authors are also welcome, but their content must contain a significant component of student-related research.

Topics of interest are only required to fulfill the scope of the Near Surface Geophysics Journal but we are particularly interested in"

- * Innovative measurement, assessment and monitoring techniques
 - * New and emerging geophysical methods and sensor technologies
 - * New numerical/analytical modeling and inversion techniques applied to practical problems
 - * The development of novel, integrated, multi-technique imaging and characterization approaches
 - * The application of current geophysical techniques to new application areas
 - * The analysis and re-evaluation of current data that leads to new perspectives on existing problems
 - * Novel and interesting case histories/studies
- In addition, we welcome papers that highlight the quality and novelty of student-based research and how it benefits the near-surface geophysics community in terms of educational, economic and professional development.

Authors will be requested to submit final papers in one of two formats: either a Standard Paper (a full length paper of typically 8-12 journal pages) or a Short Paper (a letters style paper of less than 8 journal pages). It is envisaged that short papers will predominantly highlight new techniques, methodologies or scientific advances whilst standard papers will involve a greater degree of discussion, critical evaluation and practical application (e.g., case histories, multi-technique approaches, new application areas, etc). In either case, the guest editors will ensure that papers conform to the high quality standards of Near Surface Geophysics.

Please inform the EAGE Editorial Office, Ms. Wendel van der Sluis (ws@eage.org), about your intention to contribute and provide a one-page draft abstract, stating the intended format of your paper (standard or short), by 1st July 2009. Successful authors will be required to submit their full papers by 1st November 2009.

If authors wish to informally discuss their intended submission before the abstract deadline, please contact the guest editors directly by e-mail. Guest

Editors: Nigel Cassidy & Jamie Pringle, Keele University, U.K.
n.j.cassidy@esci.keele.ac.uk , j.k.pringle@esci.keele.ac.uk

6. Positions

6.1 Post Doctoral Fellow Position at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory The Earth Sciences Division of Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory is seeking applications for a Post Doctoral Fellow to develop methods to integrate geophysical, hydrogeological, and biogeochemical datasets for exploring processes associated with environmental remediation and water resources at the watershed scale.

The position involves developing methods to integrate lab and field-scale geophysical, hydrological and biogeochemical datasets and to provide estimates of parameters controlling flow and transport processes. Other important components of the position include: testing the developed methods using disparate and multi-scale field datasets; presenting your research at scientific conferences; publishing research results in peer-reviewed journals; assisting in proposal development; and student training.

This position requires an outstanding record of original and high-quality research and demonstrated experience in subsurface characterization and monitoring using a geophysical datasets. A familiarization with stochastic integration techniques is desired.

Essential for the position is a Ph.D. in hydrological, geological, or geophysical sciences or engineering; a demonstrated ability to collaborate with a multi-disciplinary research team; and good writing skills.

Salary and Benefits: This is a one year appointment with the possibility of renewal based on performance and the availability of funding. Salary is \$5130/month + benefits. To apply, please visit <http://jobs.lbl.gov/LBNLCareers/details.asp?jid=22739> and follow the on-line instructions to complete the application process. For more information, please contact Susan Hubbard at sshubbard@lbl.gov. Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until position is filled.

6.2 Post Doctoral Position in Applied and Environmental Geophysics, University of Lausanne The Institute of Geophysics at the University of Lausanne has an opening for a gifted postdoctoral researcher in the field of applied and environmental geophysics to start in November 2009 or at a later date to be agreed upon. The successful candidate will be expected to: (I) initiate and conduct his/her own research projects, (ii) supervise jointly doctoral-level thesis projects, and (iii) participate in the teaching of geophysics courses. Although we are soliciting applications from all domains of applied and environmental geophysics, in-depth experience of one or several of the following domains would be highly desirable: computational geophysics, hydrogeophysics, petrophysics, and induced polarization. At the time of appointment, the successful candidate must have a doctoral degree in geophysics. A working understanding of French is an advantage but not a necessity. This is a unique opportunity for a highly motivated young researcher to launch his/her own career by joining a leading research group and dynamically growing institution in this field. Our institute is well equipped and scenically located on the shores of Lake Geneva, a region of outstanding natural

beauty offering a vibrant cosmopolitan atmosphere and a very high quality of life.

To apply please send your CV, list of publications, and an outline of research interests/plans together with the names, telephone numbers and e mail addresses of two referees to Professor Klaus Holliger, Institute of Geophysics, Amphipole Building, University of Lausanne, CH-1015 Lausanne, Switzerland, klaus.holliger@unil.ch. Deadline for the receipt of applications is May 31, 2009.

To contribute material to the NS-letter send an e-mail to:
George Tsoflias tsoflias@ku.edu

DEADLINE: Material must be received 2 full business days prior to the first of each month.

GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSIONS: All members are welcome to submit content of interest to the NS community. Please keep messages brief and provide contact information and (if available) a hyperlink for additional information. AGU requests formatting of e-mail messages to be as simple as possible (no bold characters (use ALL CAPS instead), no color font, or other special formatting of text and paragraphs). Do not submit e-mail attachments for distribution.