

February 2011 Newsletter of the AGU Near-Surface Focus Group

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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 February 2011:
Primary affiliation: 740 members; Secondary: 2591 members

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1 Evolution of the AGU Fall Meeting: Changes to important dates (from George Tsoufilias)

The Fall Meeting is the flagship meeting for AGU and the largest Earth and space sciences meeting in the world. Attendance has been growing at a rate of approximately 6-8% per year over the past decade, with the 2010 meeting attended by over 19,000, including 31% from outside the U.S. The growth of the meeting has increased logistical efforts, from planning sessions and handling abstract submissions, to organizing business meetings, receptions, awards, etc. In order to maintain the high quality of AGU science and the reputation of AGU for excellence in meetings, the AGU Meetings Committee decided to move forward the dates for session proposals and abstract submission.

THE NEW KEY DATES FOR THE 2011 FALL MEETING ARE:

- a) Session proposal submission opens 25 February and Closes 20 April, 2011
- b) Abstract submissions open 8 June and close 4 August, 2011

Make note of the new (earlier) dates and consider proposing a Near Surface (NS) session. Online links and additional information will be provided in the March newsletter.

2. Member input on Mission: Alignment Project (from Cheryl Enderlein)

As of today, we have received 369 responses to the online member survey. This is the same survey we told you about in San Francisco, and recently it was promoted in both AGU Universe and Eos.

Mission: Alignment Project (M:AP) intends to answer the following strategic question over the next year and half: "Given our strategic plan, stakeholder expectations of AGU, and what is being asked of science and our members - How does our science need to be organized, recognized and rewarded, disseminated and promoted?"

The M:AP is now in the information gathering and dialogue phase. At the Fall meeting, in addition to the council meeting, AGU held four member group discussions (two for section & focus group members, one for international members, one for students). If you did not have the opportunity to give your input at the meeting, we encourage you to participate online at <https://vovici.com/wsb.dll/s/2d34g485cc> or go to AGU's main page <http://www.agu.org/> and select the link "Voice your opinion about the future of Earth and space science". This is an opportunity for AGU members to shape its future direction and for the Near Surface Focus Group to play an active role in the new AGU and represent our community.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Cheryl L. Enderlein, CAE
Assistant Director, Leadership and Volunteer Services
Direct phone: (202) 777-7502
Email: cenderlein@agu.org

3. Call for papers: IWAGPR2011; extended deadline for paper submission February 28th (from Jan van der Kruk)

Dear Colleagues,

Due to many requests for extension, we have extended the deadline for submitting an extended abstract (camera ready paper, 4-6 pages) for IWAGPR2011 to February 28, 2011

The submission guidelines and abstract templates can be found under "Author instructions" on the IWAGPR2011 homepage www.fz-juelich.de/iwagpr2011. It is planned that the Conference proceedings will be included in the IEEEXplore® library.

The homepage is updated and contains the following new items:

- Guided tours are planned on Thursday June 23rd (see <Program> <Social Program>)
- Industrial Exhibition information is available on the homepage.
- Partners & Sponsors list is updated
- Proceedings of the 1994 GPR conference can be downloaded (see <Previous GPR Events>)
- A Latex template is available.

Touristic Information of Aachen can be found here <http://www.aachen.de/EN/ts/>

The online registration for IWAGPR2011 will be available soon.

We are looking forward receiving your abstracts.

Best regards,

Jan van der Kruk
General Chair IWAGPR2011

4. Call for abstracts: Novcare2011 - Abstract Deadline March 11 (from Remke van Dam)

We invite you to submit an abstract to NovCare 2011: Novel Methods for Subsurface Characterization and Monitoring - From Theory to Practice, to be held May 9-11, 2011, on Cape Cod, MA. This three-day topical conference will draw together environmental researchers and practitioners, providing a rare opportunity for stakeholders from academia, industry, and government, to explore, experience, and discuss the latest developments in subsurface characterization and monitoring.

Invited speakers include Drs. Richelle Allen-King (U. at Buffalo), Olaf Cirpka (U. of Tübingen), Denis LeBlanc (USGS), Lee Slater (Rutgers U.), Scott Tyler (U. of Nevada, Reno), Garth van der Kamp (Environment Canada), Harry Vereecken (Forschungszentrum Jülich), and Gary Weissmann (U. of New Mexico).

Contributions of original research are solicited on, but not limited to: subsurface transport monitoring, contaminant remediation, stream-aquifer interactions, and watershed characterization, using technologies including, direct-push characterization tools, surface and borehole geophysics, adaptive and wireless sensor networks, geotechnical methods and sonic drilling, novel sensing devices, and tracer and hydraulic test methods.

The abstract deadline is March 11. For more information and abstract submission details, visit <http://www.novcare.org/submit.html>.

5. Books: Advances in Near-Surface Seismology and Ground-Penetrating Radar, edited by: Richard D. Miller, John H. Bradford, and Klaus Holliger

Advances in Near-surface Seismology and Ground-penetrating Radar (SEG Geophysical Developments Series No. 15) is a collection of original papers by renowned and respected authors from around the world. Technologies used in the application of near-surface seismology and ground-penetrating radar have seen significant advances in the last several years. Both methods have benefited from new processing tools, increased computer speeds, and an expanded variety of applications. This book, divided into four sections - "Reviews," "Methodology," "Integrative Approaches," and "Case Studies" - captures the most significant cutting-edge issues in active areas of research, unveiling truly pertinent studies that address fundamental applied problems. This collection of manuscripts grew from a core group of papers presented at a postconvention workshop, "Advances in Near-surface Seismology and Ground-penetrating Radar," held during the 2009 SEG Annual Meeting in Houston, Texas. This is the first cooperative publication effort between the near-surface communities of SEG, AGU, and EEGS. It will appeal to a large and diverse audience that includes researchers and practitioners inside and outside the near-surface geophysics community.

Visit <http://www.seg.org/resources/publications/books/pubsnewbooks> for further information about pricing and availability

6. Open positions:

6.1. Postdoctoral scientist: geophysical properties of biofuels

We seek a postdoctoral scientist to work on an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) student services contract to continue work on the geophysical properties of biofuels in the environment. The postdoctoral scientist will be based at Rutgers University-Newark and will work under the co-supervision of Dale Werkema (EPA) and Lee Slater (Rutgers). We anticipate a May 1, 2011 appointment although there is flexibility in the start date. The ideal applicant will have an interdisciplinary background in physics, geophysics, geochemistry and/or biology.

Full details of the position and an application form are available at <http://www.epa.gov/oamrtpnc/q1100050/index.htm>. The deadline for the receipt of applications is February 28, 2011. Questions regarding the position should be addressed to Lee Slater (lslater@andromeda.rutgers.edu) and Dale Werkema (werkema.d@epamail.epa.gov).

To contribute material to the NS-letter send an e-mail to:

Xavier Comas xcomas@fau.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 web address 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). E-mail attachments cannot be distributed