



AGU Near-Surface Focus Group Newsletter: October 2012

1. **Report from the AGU Council Meeting, 6 September 2012**
2. **Reminder: AGU Elections deadline 4 October**
3. **AGU Fall Meeting 2012 News:**
 - 3.1. *Report on Near Surface abstract submissions*
 - 3.2. *Online Registration and Housing is now open*
 - 3.3. *Near Surface Focus Group Luncheon at the Fall AGU Meeting*
4. **Reminder: SEG International Exposition and 82nd Annual Meeting, Las Vegas, NV**
5. **Call for abstracts: SAGEEP 2013**
6. **Reminder: AGU Meeting of the Americas, session proposal deadline 17 October**
7. **Announcement: PhD course in NMR laboratory methods for soil and sediment characterization**
8. **Announcement: EEGS/Geonics Early Career Award**
9. **Announcement: Post-AGU short course: Launching an Academic Career**
10. **Open positions:**
 - 10.1. *Postdoctoral researcher in electrical geophysics, Rutgers University, Newark*
 - 10.2. *Two PhD positions in Hydrogeophysics at Florida Atlantic University*

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](#).

AGU NS Membership as of October 2012:

Primary affiliation: 793 members; Secondary: 2881 members

-
1. Report from the AGU Council Meeting, 6 September 2012 (from Lu Pellerin and George Tsoflias)

AGU held its third Council Meeting (online webinar) this year on September 6th. The meeting began with a solicitation for information from each group about current and future trends (in science, funding etc.) that may impact AGU in 2013 and beyond. The Honors and Recognition committee updated the council on a proposed new Union-level award titled Science for Solutions; revisions to the Conflict of Interest policy for honors selection committees; and ideas for increasing diversity of nominations for AGU honors. Additional meeting discussions included the status, process and timeline for review and approval of the Draft AGU Scientific Ethics Policy, and recent Council Leadership Team decisions regarding editorial appointments and the status of the publications transition including progress to date, upcoming milestones, and communications. At the closing of the meeting and in preparation of the 2013–2014 Term, AGU solicited information from current group leaders on "what would have helped you be better prepared for your Council role and for leading your Section/Focus Group?"

If you are interested in more detail on any of these topics, please feel free to contact [Lu Pellerin](#) or [George Tsoflias](#).

-
2. Reminder: AGU Elections deadline 4 October (from George Tsoflias)

Dear colleagues: Deadline for AGU elections for the 2013-2014 term is coming soon. This election is especially important for the Near Surface Focus Group since it is the first time we will be electing officers for the positions of NS President-Elect and Secretary. Electing officers gives the focus group representation in the AGU Council and the ability to serve the NS community and AGU better. By voting you also have direct input in the selection of AGU's leadership (board members, student and early career reps). Candidate bios can be viewed on the [AGU Elections Web page](#). You will see an impressive list of NS members involved throughout AGU's leadership, starting from the top with the 2013-14 AGU president Carol Finn.

The election polls will be open until 4 October 2012. All regular and student members who joined or renewed their membership by 1 July 2012 are eligible to vote. Login credentials were sent to eligible voters on 4-5 September from the election vendor (@directvote.net).

3. AGU Fall Meeting 2012 News:

3. 1. Report on Near Surface abstract submissions to the AGU Fall Meeting 2012 (from Chester Weiss)

Total number of abstracts submitted to NS is 169, representing a 17% increase over last year! Total number submitted to the AGU grew by a more modest 7% to 21,516 with the largest contributions in Atmospheric Sciences (2559), Biogeosciences (1781), Hydrology (2537), Tectonophysics (1456) and Ocean Sciences (1281). Based on these statistics, NS was allocated 7 oral presentation sessions and 10 poster sessions. Note that the AGU Program Committee aims to distribute the sessions for a given Sections/Focus-Group evenly over the entire week. As a consequence, the poster sessions for NS are distributed with of 23 poster presentations per day - the average number given the total number of posters in NS after oral allocations are made. Details of the final session schedule will be released shortly by AGU, but please plan in advance that if you wish to have the complete NS experience at the meeting, you should plan on attending for the entire week. This goes for all sections and focus groups.

3.2. Online Registration and Housing is now open

The American Geophysical Union's 45th annual [Fall Meeting](#) will bring together more than 20,000 Earth and space scientists, educators, students, and other leaders in San Francisco, California, 3-7 December as they gather to present groundbreaking research and connect with colleagues. The Registration and Housing site is now open. The deadline for discounted registration is Friday, 2 November. The housing deadline is Friday, 2 November. And don't forget to sign up for the NS FG luncheon!

3.3. Near Surface Focus Group Luncheon at the Fall AGU Meeting (from Seth Campbell)

We have 30 student tickets available to cover the NSFG luncheon at AGU in 2012. Please contact [Seth Campbell](#) to request a luncheon ticket on a first come first serve basis for NSFG student members. Please include whether NSFG is your primary or secondary affiliation with your lunch ticket request. Non-members are welcome to request a ticket if they have an interest in joining NSFG however, priority will be given to current NSFG student members.

We are also planning an informal lunch meeting or dinner outing for NSFG students and NSFG early career professionals that are interested in mingling with and mentoring students. Please stay tuned for future announcements about the NSFG Student/Early Career meeting details.

4. Reminder: SEG International Exposition and 82nd Annual Meeting, Las Vegas, NV

The SEG International Exposition and 82nd Annual Meeting, sponsored by the Near Surface Geophysics

Section, will take place 4–9 November in Las Vegas, NV. Advanced registration is opened until 19 October.

5. Call for abstracts: SAGEEP 2013 (from Bruce Smith)

The Environmental and Engineering Geophysical Society (EEGS) invites you to submit an abstract for the 26th Annual Symposium on the Application of Geophysics to Engineering and Environmental Problems (SAGEEP). SAGEEP provides geophysicists, engineers, geoscientists and end-users from around the world an opportunity to meet and discuss near-surface applications of geophysics and learn about recent developments in near-surface geophysics. [SAGEEP 2013](#) will feature joint sessions with AGU, SEG and AAPG, as well as special topical sessions.

Short, 300-words maximum abstracts, reviewed for both scientific relevance and the absence of commercialism, are due by 16 November 2012. Authors of accepted short abstracts are invited to submit an extended abstract (4 pages maximum – about 1,500 words) or a Near-Surface Geophysical Research Letter (10 pages recommended or about 4,000 words) with a deadline of 14 January 2013. The web site for abstract submission will open in early October.

If you are from a country that requires a visa to enter the U.S., please ensure that you start the process of obtaining any required travel documents in a timely manner

6. Reminder: AGU Meeting of the Americas, session proposal deadline 17 October

The 2013 Meeting of the Americas will be held 14–17 May in Cancun, Mexico. [Read more](#) about the Joint Assembly and [submit](#) your session proposal today!
Session Proposal Deadline: 17 October, 2359h EST.

7. Announcement: PhD course in NMR laboratory methods for soil and sediment characterization

Dear All,

As one of our main research activities, the HydroGeophysics group at Aarhus University is working on Magnetic Resonance Sounding (MRS) or surface-NMR technique. This method is a promising geophysical methods for groundwater investigations.

As a main step in interpretation of MRS data, the results are linked to hydrological parameters, e.g. hydraulic conductivity. This step is based on empirical relations from laboratory NMR experiments. Concerning this matter, the HydroGeophysics group is holding a short course in low-field nuclear magnetic laboratory methods for soil and sediment characterization. The course is one-week long and will be held by Dr. Kristina Keating (visiting professor from Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, Rutgers University).

For further information about the course, registration, accommodation etc. please see the [course homepage](#).

Please circulate this information to anyone you think could have interest in the course.

Best regards

Ahmad Ali Behroozmand and Esben Auken

8. Announcement: EEGS/Geonics Early Career Award (from Jonathan Nyquist)

Nomination Deadline: 30 November 2012

The Environmental and Engineering Geophysical Society and Geonics Limited are pleased to announce that nominations are now open for the 2013 EEGS / Geonics Early Career Award, which acknowledges academic excellence and encourages research in near-surface geophysics. The award is presented annually at SAGEEP to a full-time university faculty member who, by the nomination deadline; is

- fewer than five years beyond the starting date of his or her current academic appointment;
- within ten years post-completion of his or her PhD.

The award acknowledges significant and ongoing contributions to the discipline of environmental and engineering geophysics. The recipient may have any specialty that is recognized as part of the environmental and engineering geophysics discipline. This specialty is not restricted to departments, colleges, or geographic regions (international applicants are welcome). A committee of four or five members (two or three university faculty, one corporate or consulting representative, and one government laboratory representative), appointed by the EEGS Board, is responsible for selecting the awardee.

The award carries the following benefits:

- Free registration to the SAGEEP conference at which the award will be presented
- A plaque, suitable for display
- A \$1000 cash award
- A 30-minute time slot to present the awardee's research and vision at SAGEEP
- The citation and, if available, the awardee's presentation published in FastTIMES and distributed to cooperating societies

The awardee is expected to be present during the EEGS Luncheon at SAGEEP 2013 in Denver, Colorado.

Nominations should be sent electronically to:

Dr. [Jonathan Nyquist](#), Chair of the Early Career Award Committee
Temple University
1901 N 13th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19122-6081
Phone: 215-204-7484

Nomination packages must include:

- A comprehensive vitae for the candidate
 - A letter of recommendation outlining the candidate's qualifications for the award
 - Copies or PDF files of three representative publications
-

9. Announcement: Post-AGU short course: Launching an Academic Career (from Kamini Singha)

Instructors: Jeff McDonnell, Mike Gooseff, Brian McGlynn, Kamini Singha and Thorsten Wagener

Date: Sat Dec 8th (Day immediately following AGU week)

Location: Holiday Inn Golden Gateway

Fee: \$75

Students: 75 max

Morning Session: How to get an academic job (PhD and post doc prep, The ad, CV, application, interview, negotiation)

Afternoon Session: How to get tenure (what matters, how administrators think, grants, teaching, service, ethics)

Start the registration process <https://conferences.bus.oregonstate.edu/Conference/launching-academic-career/registration>

Additional Information: [Carly Weber](#) | Registration and Conference Manager|OSU Conference Services|200 LaSells Stewart Center, Corvallis, OR 97331|P: 541-737-8021

10. Open positions:

10.1. Postdoctoral researcher in electrical geophysics, Rutgers University, Newark

The Near Surface Geophysics group at Rutgers University (Newark, NJ) seeks a postdoctoral scientist to work on both laboratory and field -based projects directed towards improving understanding of the electrical geophysical signatures associated with hydrogeological and biogeochemical processes in the subsurface. Our work is interdisciplinary so applicants that have experience in geophysics, geochemistry and/or microbiology are preferred. We seek a motivated individual to take the lead on 2-3 existing projects in our group that best match the applicant's interests and skillsets. Opportunities exist to work on a variety of projects including (1) biogeophysical signatures of crude oil degradation in the subsurface, (2) geophysical characterization/monitoring in fractured rock environments, and (3) development of laboratory and borehole geophysical instrumentation for near surface hydrogeophysical and biogeophysical applications. The initial appointment is for 1 year but extendable subject to availability of funds. Statements of interest should be sent to [Lee Slater](#) and [Dimitrios Ntarlagiannis](#).

10.2. Two PhD positions in Hydrogeophysics at Florida Atlantic University

The Department of Geosciences at Florida Atlantic University (FAU) has two openings for doctoral students in the field of Hydrogeophysics. The selected students will participate in research to investigate carbon dynamics in the Everglades using hydrogeophysical techniques. Each position is funded at the research assistantship level for three years and the starting date is January 2013. The successful candidates should ideally hold a MSc degree in geophysics, physics, environmental sciences or related discipline. Experience with hydrogeophysical methods is preferred. The two projects have an important outdoors component, for which fieldwork skills are desirable. The selected students will join the recently opened FAU/USGS/UF joint facility in the Davie Campus of FAU which combines state-of-the-art facilities for Everglades science research to support both laboratory and field-based studies in the Everglades.

Applicants should send a cover letter explaining their fit and motivation for the position, curriculum vitae and the names, telephone numbers, and e-mail addresses of two referees to [Xavier Comas](#). Review of applications will begin 5 November 2012 and until positions are filled.

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

[Xavier Comas](#)

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

--

Every vote counts! AGU 2012 elections, open 4 September–4 October:

<http://sites.agu.org/elections/>

Please vote today!

American Geophysical Union | 2000 Florida Avenue, NW | Washington, DC 20009 | +1 202.462.6900

[Unsubscribe here.](#)

