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FROM THE CHAIR

Dear Friends,

I feel very fortunate to begin my service as AGI Foundation (AGIF) Chair. Under Rick Powers’ able leadership, the Foundation has transformed into a more agile, vibrant and donor-centered organization. The result has been the introduction of new trustees, who are active in the industry and the geosciences, and who can engage effectively with new partners. The AGIF Development Committee helped secure a major gift for the Center’s campaign and has successfully launched the AGIF Legacy Society.

These accomplishments wouldn’t have been possible without your passionate support for the geosciences, AGI and AGIF. I want to thank you all for your generous contributions and support of the Foundation.

I feel strongly that for the next three years, we will need to focus beyond our existing networks to broaden our partnership outreach. We also must establish a strong case for the evolving needs of the global geoscience community and work together with our individual, corporate and foundation partners to address a whole new generation of geoscientists.

Finally, we need to make a concentrated effort to successfully complete AGIF’s key fundraising project - the capital campaign for the Center for Geoscience and Society. We must energize all of our generous supporters, mobilize our Development Committee, recruit new volunteers and make an aggressive push to the finish line. I hope that we can count on all of you to personally contribute your time and resources to this effort.

Thank you all for your continuous support of the Foundation, in both time and treasure, and I look forward to greater engagement with you in the near future.

Dan Domeracki,
Foundation Chairman

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

I’d like to thank all of you who attended the recent AGIF meeting in Calgary. My special thanks, of course, goes to Rick Powers. For over a decade, Rick has ensured that the Foundation reaches new heights in its fundraising and outreach efforts.

The Calgary meeting was a great success. Most importantly, we welcomed our three new trustees: Randi Martinsen, Ron Amundson and Bob Frykland. I’m pleased that the Board makes continuous efforts to diversify the Foundation and bring new active members of the geoscience industry to serve as trustees.

As I listened to the presentations and engaged in discussions, it was clear to me that the Foundation is filled with new energy and excitement. One of my key takeaways was that we need to invest more time and effort to promote the Foundation and the Institute to broader audiences. This message resonated with everyone. In fact, this is the key for the capital campaign’s success as well as for our larger effort to bring geoscience information to the public. We need to act more boldly in sharing the great work of AGI with broader constituents nationally and internationally.

We also can experiment with new outreach activities. For example, the majority of AGIF trustees supported a proposal to hold a pilot fundraising gala event in Houston in 2017. This gala will serve two important goals: to help us raise funds for the capital campaign and to promote the Center for Geoscience and Society work among various stakeholder groups. I’m confident that with your help, we’ll be able to make it a very successful event.

In the meantime, I am excited to work with each of you to successfully complete the quiet stage of the Center’s campaign. There’s no doubt that our consolidated effort will bring outstanding results!

P. Patrick Leahy, Ph.D.,
Executive Director
AGI FOUNDATION HIGHLIGHTS

Pat Leahy (left) receives an AGI Award from AGI President, Scott Tinker.
Andrey Gidaspow/AGI Foundation

Rick Powers presents an AGI Award to Bill Fisher (at right).
Andrey Gidaspow/AGI Foundation

Rick Powers presents an AGI Award to Ray Thomasson (at right).
Andrey Gidaspow/AGI Foundation

Rick Powers presents an AGI Award to Michael Forrest (at right).
Andrey Gidaspow/AGI Foundation
The American Geosciences Institute (AGI) is pleased to announce the appointment of Mrs. Allyson K. Anderson Book as its new Executive Director. She will be joining AGI on September 6, 2016.

Mrs. Anderson Book comes to AGI from the Department of the Interior, where she has served as the Associate Director of Strategic Engagement of the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE). Prior to joining BSEE she was a senior professional staff member on Chairman Jeff Bingaman's Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

AGI President Dr. Scott W. Tinker, notes that “Allyson rose to the top of an extremely competitive field. She brings intelligence, energy, vision, integrity, and outstanding experience to the role and we all look forward to her leadership in geosciences at AGI.” Current AGI Executive Director, Dr. P. Patrick Leahy adds, “During the last decade, the American Geosciences Institute has evolved to become a truly global organization in serving the needs of the U.S. geosciences community and in connecting society to the geosciences. I am pleased that Allyson Anderson Book, as Executive Director, will take the reins of leadership at AGI to innovate and lead the Institute to even greater heights of relevance and effectiveness.”

Mrs. Anderson Book came to D.C. and Capitol Hill as the 2006-2007 American Geological Institute’s William L. Fisher Congressional Science Fellow working on the staff of the Senate Energy Committee, where her work involved many energy and resource related issues including oil and gas exploration and production activities, mineral criticality, carbon sequestration and geothermal energy resources. She also worked on policy related to fossil energy research and development, critical minerals and materials for clean energy technologies and other geological and science related policy areas.

Prior to joining the Energy Committee staff, Mrs. Anderson Book was a petrophysicist/senior geoscientist at ExxonMobil Exploration Company in Houston, Texas and student/researcher at the Kansas Geological Survey. She earned a master’s degree in geology from Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis in 2000.

She is a former President of the Association for Women Geoscientists and has been an active member and volunteer for the American Association of Petroleum Geologists for more than 20 years. She has also served on many other volunteer, professional outreach and education committees through professional geoscientific organizations. Mrs. Anderson Book is also currently an adjunct professor and Energy Scholar at Georgetown University’s Science in the Public Interest Program.
CAGF American Geosciences Institute Foundation

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MEET NEW AGIF TRUSTEES

DR. RANDI S. MARTINSEN, GEOLOGIST AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING, EMERITUS SENIOR LECTURER; PRINCIPAL, HYDROCARBON INSIGHT, LLC JOINS AGIF

Randi Martinsen started her career in 1974 with Cities Service Company, Denver, Colorado where she spent time in both exploration and production. In 1979, she became a consultant developing oil and gas prospects and teaching for industry. She joined the University of Wyoming in 1981, where she taught several petroleum geology and stratigraphy classes. She has over 25 peer-reviewed publications and presentations on critical controls on hydrocarbon accumulations including depositional system analysis, sequence stratigraphy, tectonics and sedimentation, anomalous pressures, tight gas sandstones, plus numerous short course notes and field trip guides. Randi Martinsen received a bachelor’s degree in earth and space science from State University of New York at Stony Brook in 1971. She received her master’s degree in geology from Northern Arizona University. She is a past president of AAPG.

MR. BOB FRYKLUND, CHIEF UPSTREAM STRATEGIST, IHS MARKIT

Bob Fryklund is an industry expert on upstream strategic issues, including company building, portfolio management, access, valuation, Latin America and unconventionals. He is a frequent keynote speaker for industry events, including the World Economic Forum, IHS CERAWEek, IEF-OPEC, OTC, NAPE, AAPG and SPE. A regular contributor to leading industry publications, he serves on the AAPG advisory board and the board of directors of the Independent Petroleum Association of America (IPAA), as well as ARPEL, a non-profit association of companies and institutions in the oil, gas and biofuels sector in Latin America. He is a frequent expert witness, and he has been instrumental in many industry game-changing discoveries of giant oil & gas fields, including the largest M & A deal in the last decade. Mr. Fryklund's education includes advanced studies and an advanced management certificate. He graduated from Hamilton College in Clinton, N.Y. with a Bachelor of Arts in geology.

CALGARY MEETING: AGIF SETS NEW HORIZONS

Eighteen AGIF trustees took part in the June foundation meeting in Calgary. As Rick Powers, outgoing Foundation Chair, mentioned in his remarks, “AGIF has become a transformative power in supporting the geosciences through the fine work of AGI!” In fact, AGIF’s vibe and energy projected itself throughout the sessions. The new annual report featured the Center for Geoscience and Society’s updates and highlighted prominent donors who have supported the Foundation through thick and through thin. Thanks to such passionate supporters, like Charles Weiner, Jack Threet, M. Ray Thomasson, Jan van Sant, and many others, not only has AGIF successfully maintained support for AGI’s key projects, but was also able to launch an ambitious campaign to endow the Center. To show appreciation for these efforts, Powers presented Emeritus Awards to AGIF long-standing supporters and mentors Bill Fisher, Mike Forrest and M. Ray Thomasson.

AGIF’s financial position has remained solid as well. Pat Leahy, AGIF Executive Director, reported that as of June 2016, AGIF had $4.8 million in the bank with $3.3 million allocated for endowments. Importantly, investments are showing a 2% annual return.

The Membership Committee continued its aggressive outreach to bring new trustees to the Foundation. Presently, AGIF includes 38 members, including 31 trustees, six...
which have Emeritus status, and Leahy as the ex-officio member. AGIF approved Randi Martinsen, a retired University of Wyoming professor of geology, and Robert Fryklund of IHS, as new trustees. One of the highlights of the Membership Committee’s session was approval of Jan Van Sant as an Emeritus Trustee. Van Sant’s candidacy was overwhelmingly approved, with many trustees reporting Van Sant’s significant investment of time and resources in AGIF’s success.

Progress of the Center’s capital campaign was among the agenda’s top items. Andrey Gidaspov, AGIF Development Director, reported that notwithstanding the campaign’s early success in landing a lead gift of $1 million and unprecedented Board support in raising $296,000 in cash and pledges, there’s much to be done in the fall to secure additional lead gifts and ensure the campaign’s success. In particular, the Development Committee’s efforts to identify new prospects and recruiting new volunteers are of paramount importance.

Pat Leahy suggested that AGIF may look into some new ways in securing funding, such as conducting fundraising galas. Some of the member societies, such as the Archeological Institute of America and SME, have successfully implemented this approach, raising significant donations. The trustees discussed potential locations for such event and decided that the first such gala may be held in Houston next year.

Maeve Boland reported on the progress of the Critical Issues Program (CIP). The CIP has developed two flagship products — the Critical Issues Forum and the Critical Issues website — designed to link the geosciences with decision makers at all levels. Major program highlights included the fact that the website traffic increased by more than 300% over the last year, with users coming from 181 different countries. The Critical Issues research database, FAQs, maps and visualizations, basic information pages, and webinars now attract over 12,000 users each month. This number continues to grow as more content is added. CIP also hosted 7 webinars on topics as varied as induced seismicity, water resources, critical minerals, ocean acidification, Cascadian earthquake risk, produced water, and offshore energy, with 3-5 additional webinars planned through the end of the year.

Finally, Dan Domeracki, the new Foundation Chair, noted that he’s “humbled to take this important role” and he looks forward to working with Pat Leahy and AGI’s new Executive Director.” Domeracki said that he will concentrate in making AGI and AGIF more widely understood, getting more young people involved, and stepping up the funding efforts in order to make the Foundation more attractive to donors.
AGI CRITICAL ISSUES FORUM: ADDRESSING CHANGES IN REGIONAL GROUNDWATER RESOURCES: LESSONS FROM THE HIGH PLAINS AQUIFER

October 27-28, 2016. Hosted by the Payne Institute for Earth Resources, Colorado School of Mines

The High Plains Aquifer, which spans eight states from South Dakota to Texas and provides about 30 percent of the groundwater used for irrigation in the United States, is being depleted. The aquifer is already effectively exhausted for agricultural purposes in parts of Kansas, other areas are estimated to have an economic lifespan of less than 25 years, while some areas remain generally unaffected.

The second AGI Critical Issues Forum will examine scientific, technical, economic, regulatory, and social aspects of the depletion of the High Plains Aquifer and will focus on two key questions:

» How have different experts and stakeholders (technical experts, legislators and regulators, businesses, communities, etc.) addressed the depletion of the High Plains Aquifer?

» Are there lessons learned or best practices developed from the High Plains Aquifer that might apply to other regions facing changes in the Earth system?

The Forum is being hosted by the Payne Institute for Earth Resources at the Colorado School of Mines campus in Golden, Colorado, on October 27th and 28th, 2016. Please join us for what should be a very stimulating discussion. More information is available at http://bit.ly/ciforum16.

AGI’S CENTER FOR GEOSCIENCE AND SOCIETY CREATES NEW SYNERGIES

As the Center for Geoscience and Society has formalized its structure and operation, opportunities for synergies among projects within the Center and AGI’s departments have become increasingly apparent. Collaboration between the Critical Issues Program (CIP) and Education Resources Network (ERN) can serve as a great example. The CIP is designed to provide accurate information for state and local decision makers. The needs of those audiences include basic information about geoscience topics like hazards, energy, and mineral resources that are also useful to secondary audiences, such as teachers. The ERN provides those formal and informal educators with curricula and professional development resources. Together, the CIP and ERN have collaborated on projects to jointly enhance geoscience awareness across

Activities at the 2016 Teacher Leader Academies in Houston.
E.C. Robeck/AGI
all sectors of society. One such project is connecting an assortment of CIP Basics Pages to educational material showcased on the ERN. Each Basics Page highlights a topic that is linked to corresponding Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) as well as ERN activities, media, and programs. The CIP and ERN staff continue to discuss ongoing projects and how to promote synergy between them.

Center staff members have also worked in collaboration with various organizations. In partnership with NASA, the Center has created teaching activities and data visualizations based on remote sensing and Earth systems. These activities are used at AGI’s Teacher Leadership Academies, headed by AGI’s Education and Outreach Department. For each of the past eight summers, AGI, with funding from ExxonMobil, has put on the Academies for K-5 and Middle School teachers, providing Earth science inquiry activities, instructional resources, and access to research facilities.

Similarly, the Center collaborated with NASA in developing and implementing the Scientific Visualizations booklet and DVD during Earth Science Week. The DVD guides teachers on presenting inquiry-based lessons using visualizations of Earth systems. Additionally, these visualizations demonstrate crosscutting concepts also found in the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS).

Creating an array of products used in education, policy-making, and other sectors, the Center’s work adds to AGI’s role as a leader in the geoscience community. As the Center’s work continues to grow and reaches an increasing array of audiences, the possibilities for innovative product and partnerships will expand. This approach potentially adds great value to the full range of Center projects, such as the Critical Issues Research Database, AGI’s collaboration with Schlumberger in Ecuadorian schools, and its continued work with the Michigan Technological University on an integrated middle school science curriculum.

You can learn more about the Center’s activities on its webpage: www.americangeosciences.org/center-for-geo.

Third grade students at the Princess Anne Elementary School in Princess Anne, Maryland, helped explore strategies for teaching geosciences using visualizations.
CENTER STAFF VISITS WYOMING

LEARNING SUCCESSFUL ORGANIZING STRATEGIES FROM THE GEOLOGISTS OF JACKSON HOLE (GJH) AND SHARING THE CENTER’S MISSION WITH LOCAL COMMUNITY

At the invitation of John Willott, an AGIF trustee and the President of the Geologists of Jackson Hole (GJH), Ed Robeck, Center Director, and Andrey Gidaspov, Development Director, traveled to Jackson Hole to share the Center’s projects with local community members.

The Center’s concept was shared with over 200 engaged members of the Jackson Hole community. As a result of this meeting, GJH and AGI agreed to link their web resources, and to promote the GJH model of enabling retired professional geologists and geology enthusiasts to share their experiences in local communities across the country. In addition, GJH members who have professional experience in fields outside of geoscience will contribute to the Center’s development of “sector reviews” that relate to varied geoscience industries.

FROM THE AGIF DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE:

Over the past 12 months, the AGIF Development Committee worked with AGI staff to implement a clear fund raising strategy and communication package for the Center for Geoscience and Society. We are now moving into the next phase of Development Committee activity in which AGIF Trustees will actively work with Andrey Gidaspov, the Development Director, to secure contributions for the Center. To this end, we are asking Trustees who are willing to make initial contact and/or have in-depth conversations with potential donors to join the Development Committee. The Committee’s activity during the next 12 months will be critical for achieving the $6.5M fundraising goal to fund the Center until 2050.
AGIF DONOR HIGHLIGHT

“GEO SCIEN CE HAS PLAYED AN EX CEPTI ONAL ROLE IN MY LIFE.” — IN T ERV IEW WI T H PAT LE AH Y

As he retires from his leadership role at AGI, AGIF Executive Director Pat Leahy shared his thoughts on how the geosciences shaped his life. Pat has been a consistent supporter of the AGI Foundation for many years.

How did geoscience influence your life?

Geoscience has played an exceptionally and central important role in my life. When I studied geology as an undergraduate at Boston College, it was simply because it was a subject that I enjoyed and that intrigued me. I have always been quite analytic and also quantitative so the idea of geophysics was a natural career track and with the development of the quantitative power of computers, I gravitated to hydrogeology and groundwater flow modeling. A long career with the USGS allowed me to interact globally with many geoscientists and with individuals from virtually every segment of society. This of course continued during my tenure as Executive Director for AGI. I have colleagues who have become close friends over the years. I treasure both my professional experiences and those individuals who I have had the pleasure of meeting through the geosciences.

What did inspire you to support the AGI Foundation?

AGI is a very unique organization in that it acts as a catalyst for change in the geosciences. Its mission is unique. Having a foundation that raises funds to support AGI’s innovative efforts to increase public awareness, influence decision makers at all levels, and support geosciences literacy in K-12 education is an aspirational goal that is very worthy. For much too long, the geosciences community has ignored these aspects of their responsibility. AGI through its Foundation can and is making a difference.

Why was this important to you?

At the USGS, I had the honor of serving as their Chief Geologist and as their acting Director. I saw firsthand the elegant and sophisticated science that was being accomplished by a very talented and accomplished. The challenge we faced was making science relevant to appropriate non-science audiences. We irreverently referred to this as our inability to get the product “off the loading dock.” I believe that this is the “Achilles heel” of the geosciences and I think that AGI is the natural organization to provide broad leadership across the geosciences community.

How do you see further evolution of the foundation?

The AGI Foundation has a rich history, but like most organizations, it is going through significant positive change. There are several
new trustees, new programs, a clear vision of the future and a commitment to success. All of these things have added energy to the Foundation. This has been positive relative to fundraising and our ability to promote the AGI effectively. Looking to the future, I see a broadening of our network of supporters of AGI.

BE PART OF AGI’S FUTURE — SUPPORT THE GEOSCIENCES THROUGH PLANNED GIVING!

Your planned gift can support the vital work of AGI while helping you achieve your personal, financial and estate planning goals. Your planned gift—of any size—will help ensure AGI’s ability to continue its work in supporting the geosciences. You can choose from many planned giving options on the AGIF website: www.agifoundation.org/planned-giving.

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF AGIF’S MEMBERSHIP IN THE COUNCIL ON FOUNDATIONS

Earlier this year, AGIF joined the Council on Foundations (COF). With over 65 years of experience supporting grantmakers of all sizes and types, the Council remains the foremost, largest, and most comprehensive source of philanthropic resources, tools, and professional development. The Council on Foundations connects members with others in philanthropy and with effective resources, strengthens our capacity to impact community, and advances the philanthropic sector and a culture of charitable giving in the U.S. and globally.

AGIF membership in the Council provided an opportunity for our trustees to access the Council’s services. If you are interested in this option, you can create a log-in by going to www.cof.org and clicking on “Login.” You will be given a prompt to create a log-in, and within a day, COF staff will make sure it is properly linked to AGIF membership so that you can get full access to the site as well as receive any discounts on registration, or purchases to which AGIF membership entitles you. Alternatively, you may find it easier to simply write to membership@cof.org.
MISSION
Established in 1984, the AGI Foundation...

Supports educational, scientific, and charitable activities that benefit the geoscience community, member societies and associates of the American Geosciences Institute, and the public at large, and assists the Institute in seeking funding support for specific programs and endowments and in developing partnerships with corporations, private foundations, and other funding organizations.

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