



ANNUAL REPORT 2014–2015



american
geosciences
institute

connecting earth, science, and people

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The 2014-2015 fiscal year was a busy one as AGI further expanded its role as a leader in the geosciences.

The Institute continued producing its signature products such as EARTH Magazine, GeoRef, and Geoscience Policy and Workforce reports. Earth Science Week celebrated its 18th year of engaging future geoscientists across the country. The Center for Geoscience and Society gained momentum with the Critical Issues Program and its funding increased thanks to the hiring of Andrey Gidaspov as Director of Development. Andrey was also brought on board to handle the AGI Foundation's fundraising. The first Critical Issues Forum on the future of natural gas in the United States was held and has become a strong model along with the the expansion of social media and webinars to deliver geoscience information and insight to the broadest and most diverse audience possible.

AGI's internal Marketing Committee, formed in fall 2013, spurred on changes and revisions to the website and has made its I'm a Geoscientist campaign both a successful branding exercise for the Institute and a well-known concept that is being embraced by the geoscience community.

AGI has seen significant innovation in the past two years and continues to invest capital into projects and programs that meet the needs of the geoscience community and the public at large. In addition, AGI has moved aggressively into the digital world, with the expansion of digital publications, webinars, websites and other social media. It has increased its presence with the public, decision-makers, educators and the geoscience community. Much remains to be accomplished in these areas, but future efforts will build upon a solid foundation.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Patrick Leahy', with a long, sweeping flourish extending downwards and to the right.

Dr. P. Patrick Leahy
AGI Executive Director

AGI DIRECTORS

Christopher M. Keane

Director of Communications & Technology

Sharon Tahirkheli

Director of Information Services

Maeve Boland

Director of Geoscience Policy

Ed Robeck

*Director of Education & Outreach
Director of the Center for Geoscience & Society*



Andrey Gidaspov

Director of Development

Walt Sisson

Director of Finance & Administration

MISSION STATEMENT

AGI was founded in 1948, under a directive of the National Academy of Sciences, as a network of associations representing geoscientists with a diverse array of skills and knowledge of our planet. The Institute provides information services to geoscientists, serves as a voice of shared interests in our profession, plays a major role in strengthening geoscience education, and strives to increase public awareness of the vital role the geosciences play in society's use of resources, resilience to natural hazards, and the health of the environment.

AGI is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to serving the geoscience community and addressing the needs of society. AGI headquarters are in Alexandria, Virginia.

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Texas A&M University



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Michigan Technological University
Graduate School



**Past President Berry H. (Nick)
Tew Jr.**
Geological Survey of Alabama



Chair of AGI Foundation Richard M. Powers
Consultant/AMEC-BCI (retired)



Executive Director P. Patrick Leahy
American Geosciences Institute



THE INSTITUTE

- hired a Development Director to oversee fundraising and increase AGI's presence in the community.
- held its first-ever staff retreat in April where staff focused on team-building exercises and AGI's marketing efforts.
- continued to promote the I'm a Geoscientist campaign to the geoscience community in its efforts to bind the various disciplines together.
- began the process of upgrading/renovating its 34 year old headquarters in Alexandria, Virginia, featuring improved security, appliances and many technical enhancements.
- appeared at more than 14 geoscience conferences/trade shows worldwide, a high mark in the Institute's history.

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COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY

- conducted its 2015 Geoscience Student Exit Survey, and also expanded its reach into Canada in cooperation with the Council of Chairs of Canadian Earth Science Departments, and the United Kingdom in collaboration with the Geological Society of London.
- received a grant from the Sloan Foundation to assist the Deep Carbon Observatory on increasing diversity of its U.S. research community.
- actively participated in phase 1 of the European Commission-funded International Raw Materials Observatory Project (INTRAW). This phase is establishing baselines for the EU and five target countries, including the U.S., regarding legal, economic, educational, and technological factors affecting the raw materials industries.
- began working with the INTRAW team at Cambourne School of Mines on global workforce and education issues. This is the first grant the institute has received from a non-U.S. government thus highlighting AGI's increased global presence.
- offered a free EARTH Magazine trial (digitally) to readers worldwide. EARTH now has more digital readers than print readers.
- hosted AGI's Leadership Forum in September, with a focus on The Future of Scientific Societies. This year's forum brought together leaders from AGI Member Societies and leadership of other societies acting as provocateurs to spur on discussion about the issues and opportunities facing the community.
- worked on a major revision of the Geoscience Handbook with over 100 additional or revised data sheets. The Handbook is slated for a spring 2016 release.
- completed and published the final report for a joint NSF-funded project with the American Association of Geographers examining the alignment of skills taught and needed for terminal Master's graduates in Geology and Geography.
- awarded two Harriet Evelyn Wallace Scholarships this year amid a record application rate, making the Wallace Scholarship one of the most competitive scholarships in the geosciences.



INFORMATION SERVICES (GeoRef)

- grew by more than 121,000 new references in fiscal year 2014-2015, a 17% increase over the 2014 growth of 103,000 references. Large increases in the production of conference abstracts by both AGU and EGU are fueling the expanded coverage.
- focused on geologic maps, adding more than 14,000 references as part of celebrating the Year of the Map, and on theses/dissertations, adding more than 2,600 references to Master's and Bachelor's theses and Doctoral dissertations.
- attended the U.S. Electronic Theses and Dissertation Association meeting in Austin, Texas to interact with metadata designers on issues of discoverability. As theses and dissertations move into repositories, they are becoming increasingly elusive for users as well as GeoRef staff. At the same time, they are major components of GeoRef coverage.
- received a three-year grant from the U. S. National Science Foundation to transition the Antarctic Bibliography database into a new, long-term version. The grant also includes moving the full-text of the Antarctic Journal of the United States into repositories — both at AGI and in other locations.
- is nearing completion of a new search interface for the specialized online bibliographies including Cold Regions, CanGeoRef, and AusGeoRef. The new search interface will improve discoverability and emphasize geospatial search options.
- exhibited CanGeoRef at the annual Prospectors and Developers Association (PDAC) meeting in Toronto in March. The PDAC is the world's largest minerals and mining event. The CanGeoRef database (a collaborative project with the Canadian Federation for Earth Sciences) continued to expand adding more provincial data from New Brunswick during 2015.

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GEOSCIENCE POLICY

- published *Geoscience for America's Critical Needs: Invitation to a National Policy Dialogue* at the Leadership Forum on September 28, 2015. The report, prepared by a Working Group representing AGI's member societies, identifies geoscience policy goals for the 2016 election and beyond.
- coordinated a revised version of the Guidelines for Ethical Professional Conduct, unanimously approved by AGI's Executive Committee in April and endorsed by 28 AGI member societies by the end of the fiscal year.
- was the lead organizer for Geoscience Congressional Visits Day in September where approximately sixty people participated in more than 115 meetings on Capitol Hill.
- collaborated with nine organizations to host a Capitol Hill briefing series on *Energy from the Earth: Energy-Water-Land Connections*.
- published *Geoscience Policy News Briefs and Monthly Review* providing up-to-date summaries on federal geoscience policy making.
- contributed a chapter on Geosciences to AAAS Report XL: Research & Development FY 2016.
- worked with Member Societies to promote federal investment in the geoscience research and education for FY 2016.
- hosted Stephanie Tubman, the inaugural AGI/Schlumberger Fellow in Geoscience Communication, Charlotte Wood, the 2015 Fellow, and 5 geoscience policy interns with support from AAPG and AIPG.



EDUCATION & OUTREACH

- enhanced the Education and Outreach website expanding connections to the Next Generation Science Standards, putting new “informational text” strategies online (to promote teachers’ use of EARTH magazine), and adding new activities.
- completed recruitment for the AGI/ExxonMobil Teacher Leader Academies in Houston receiving an exceptionally high response—including a very large number of teachers nominated from Department of Defense schools.
- selected the Physical Geology Lab Manual editor and several new components have been initiated in support of that work. These include the development of an “Editorial Panel” that will offer ongoing input as the manual is revised. Additionally, AGI sought input from its Member Societies on each of the labs, receiving over 150 reviews from more than 20 Member Societies.
- completed several teacher professional development projects over the summer. The AGI/ExxonMobil Teacher Leader Academies in Houston were undertaken using a revised model that emphasized STEM principles as well as the use of real-world data. The NASA Triad program completed its last summer program (on a rare third “no cost extension” from NASA) by taking teachers on a field-based experience in Arizona.
- celebrated Earth Science Week around the theme “Visualizing Earth Systems”. This year NASA produced an exciting DVD collection of scientific visualizations that is accompanied by fully-developed instructional strategies. Google provided a flyer about its geoscience education resources and AGI continued its productive partnership with the National Park Service.

THE CENTER FOR GEOSCIENCE AND SOCIETY

- facilitated the NSF-funded Summit on Implementation of the Next Generation Science Standards at the State Level in partnership with NAGT, which engaged sixty national and local geoscience education representatives in planning activities to support NGSS implementation, such as policy initiatives, conference presentations, webinars, and teacher professional development sessions.
- updated the report on the Earth and Space Science Education in the United States covering secondary geoscience education, and released the first Indicators for K-5 Geoscience Education report, including an online component that provides detailed data from across the country.
- sponsored several offerings of an online course to help teachers develop background in basic Earth and space science concepts.
- received a number of grants, including several to support Earth Science Week Stakeholder Receptions in Houston and Denver for representatives of a range of professions to discuss how to promote geoscience awareness throughout their local community, and another grant to initiate a K-5 curriculum that uses geoscience to integrate learning across all core subject areas.
- revised the Critical Issues website, increasing traffic to the site with features such as Frequently Asked Questions, Maps & Visualizations, and the Research Database, which currently contains decision-relevant material from USGS, state geological surveys, and AGI Member Societies.
- held the Critical Issues Forum: America's Increasing Reliance on Natural Gas: Benefits and Risks of a Methane Economy in Fort Worth in November, a two-day event examining the 5- to 30-year outlook for the development of a natural gas-dominant energy sector in North America.
- developed innovative materials and strategies to promote geoscience education in partnership with organizations such as the Dept. of Energy, NASA, and Michigan Technological University.
- organized a series of "Critical Issues Webinars" on topics of current interest to geoscientists such as Induced Seismicity in the Mid-Continent and Communicating Cascadia's Earthquake Risk.
- contributed to Geoscience for America's Critical Needs: Invitation to a National Policy Dialogue, a report coordinated by the Geoscience Policy program that identifies geoscience policy goals for the 2016 election and beyond.

AMERICAN GEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE
STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

SEPTEMBER 30, 2015 AND 2014

	2015	2014
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 312,848	\$ 225,459
Marketable securities	251,803	252,673
Accounts receivable	959,993	741,688
AGIF receivable	336,504	123,698
Grants and contracts receivable	325,607	77,607
Prepaid expenses and advances	45,986	47,119
Inventory of publications	<u>13,209</u>	<u>13,209</u>
Total current assets	<u>2,245,950</u>	<u>1,481,453</u>
PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT - at cost		
Building and improvements	2,047,250	2,040,950
Furniture and equipment	328,240	318,056
Less: accumulated depreciation	<u>(1,675,321)</u>	<u>(1,617,842)</u>
	700,169	741,164
Land	<u>525,032</u>	<u>525,032</u>
Net property and equipment	<u>1,225,201</u>	<u>1,266,196</u>
OTHER ASSETS		
Long term securities	3,213,278	3,911,957
Trademark	108,540	108,540
GeoRef database	4,500,000	4,500,000
Software, net amortization	4,383	6,079
Mineral displays	<u>13,363</u>	<u>13,363</u>
Total other assets	<u>7,839,564</u>	<u>8,539,939</u>
Total assets	<u>\$ 11,310,715</u>	<u>\$ 11,287,588</u>

AGI FINANCES

AGI ended fiscal year 2015 with a surplus that is slightly over budget before investment income. Investments have performed better than the benchmarks but the markets continue to fluctuate.

Through September 30, 2015, AGI's investment portfolio has decreased in value by over \$170,000 this fiscal year and stands at just over \$3.5 million. The official, audited report will be available March 2016.

	2015	2014
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 400,110	\$ 291,252
Advance subscription and project income	642,490	727,847
Accrued vacation	<u>250,961</u>	<u>209,241</u>
Total current liabilities	<u>1,293,561</u>	<u>1,228,340</u>
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted	9,830,041	10,006,235
Temporarily restricted	<u>187,113</u>	<u>53,013</u>
Total net assets	<u>10,017,154</u>	<u>10,059,248</u>
Total liabilities and net assets	<u>\$ 11,310,715</u>	<u>\$ 11,287,588</u>

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AMERICAN GEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2015

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total
SUPPORT AND REVENUE			
Advertising	\$ 55,812	\$ -	\$ 55,812
Dues	167,192	-	167,192
Grants, contracts, and services	1,316,663	-	1,316,663
Contributions	436,711	160,572	597,283
Publications sales	41,125	-	41,125
Subscription income	270,121	-	270,121
Royalties	4,563,326	-	4,563,326
Interest and investment income	(44,810)	-	(44,810)
Other	78,853	-	78,853
Total support and revenue	<u>6,884,993</u>	<u>160,572</u>	<u>7,045,565</u>
EXPENSES			
Publications	100,779	-	100,779
Workforce	226,762	-	226,762
Outreach	322,906	-	322,906
Environmental series	-	-	-
Magazine department	605,953	-	605,953
GeoRef department	2,241,883	-	2,241,883
Education and special programs	982,439	26,472	1,008,911
Center	397,549	-	397,549
Geoscience policy	306,666	-	306,666
General and administrative	1,876,250	-	1,876,250
Total expenses	<u>7,061,187</u>	<u>26,472</u>	<u>7,087,659</u>
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	(176,194)	134,100	(42,094)
NET ASSETS			
Beginning of year	<u>10,006,235</u>	<u>53,013</u>	<u>10,059,248</u>
End of year	<u>\$ 9,830,041</u>	<u>\$ 187,113</u>	<u>\$ 10,017,154</u>

MEMBER SOCIETIES

AASP-The Palynological Society (AASP)
American Association of Petroleum Geologists (AAPG)
American Geophysical Union (AGU)
American Institute of Hydrology (AIH)
American Institute of Professional Geologists (AIPG)
American Rock Mechanics Association (ARMA)
Association for the Sciences of Limnology and Oceanography (ASLO)
Association for Women Geoscientists (AWG)
Association of American Geographers (AAG)
Association of American State Geologists (AASG)
Association of Earth Science Editors (AESE)
Association of Environmental & Engineering Geologists (AEG)
Clay Minerals Society (CMS)
Council on Undergraduate Research, Geosciences Division (CUR)
Environmental and Engineering Geophysical Society (EEGS)
Friends of Mineralogy (FOM)
The Geochemical Society (GS)
Geo-Institute of the American Society of Civil Engineers (GI)
Geological Association of Canada (GAC)

Geological Society of America (GSA)
The Geological Society of London (GSL)
Geoscience Information Society (GISIS)
History of Earth Sciences Society (HESS)
International Association of Hydrogeologists/U.S. National Chapter (IAH)
International Medical Geology Association (IMGA)
Karst Waters Institute (KWI)
Mineralogical Society of America (MSA)
Mineralogical Society of Great Britain and Ireland (MSGBI)
National Association of Black Geoscientists (NABG)
National Association of Geoscience Teachers (NAGT)
National Association of State Boards of Geology (ASBOG)
National Cave and Karst Research Institute (NCKRI)
National Earth Science Teachers Association (NESTA)
National Ground Water Association (NGWA)
National Speleological Society (NSS)
North American Commission on Stratigraphic Nomenclature (NACSN)
Paleobotanical Section of the Botanical Society of America (PSBSA)
Paleontological Research Institution (PRI)
Paleontological Society (PS)

Petroleum History Institute (PHI)
Seismological Society of America (SSA)
SEPM (Society for Sedimentary Geology) (SEPM)
Society for Mining, Metallurgy, and Exploration, Inc. (SME)
The Society for Organic Petrology (TSOP)
Society of Economic Geologists (SEG)
Society of Exploration Geophysicists (SEG)
Society of Independent Professional Earth Scientists (SIPES)
Society of Mineral Museum Professionals (SMMP)
Society of Vertebrate Paleontology (SVP)
Soil Science Society of America (SSSA)
United States Permafrost Association (USPA)

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATE SOCIETIES

Canadian Federation of Earth Sciences (CFES)
Geological Society of Africa (GSAf)
International Association for Promoting Geoethics (IAPG)
YES Network (YES)

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