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## **YES Network -APECS Townhall Meeting at EGU 2011 General Assembly to be Webcast by AGI**

Alexandria, VA – The YES Network and the Association of Polar Early Career Scientists (APECS) will be hosting a townhall meeting at the 2011 European Geosciences Union (EGU) General Assembly in Vienna, Austria from 19:00-20:00 on April 5. This event will address some of the key factors in aligning graduate aspirations with employer needs. Event speakers will include representatives from geoscience early-career networks, geoscience employers, recent geoscience graduates, and current geoscience students.

The discussion will draw on experience and knowledge gleaned from the 2010-2011 responses to the YES Network Decision Points Survey. The meeting will identify aspirations and employment requirements as well as aims to improve graduate-industry communication.

For those not attending the EGU General Assembly, the townhall meeting will be live web-cast. Web-based participation is being provided for free by the American Geological Institute (AGI). Registration details are posted on the YES Network's website:  
[http://www.networkyes.org/index.php/meetings/egu\\_2011/](http://www.networkyes.org/index.php/meetings/egu_2011/) .

The YES Network (<http://www.networkyes.org/>) is a professional network for the support of early-career professionals and students in the geosciences. The YES Network not only encourages the active participation of early-career geoscientists and geoscience students, but also of those who are interested in supporting this global network. The YES Network was formed as a result of the International Year of Planet Earth in 2007. Its first international Congress was in Beijing, China in 2009 and focused on climate, environmental and geoscience challenges facing today's society, as well as career and academic pathway challenges faced by early-career geoscientists. Since the conference, the YES Network has more than tripled its membership, and its members are involved a variety of geoscience projects and conferences around the world. The YES Network aims to establish an interdisciplinary global network of individuals committed to solving these challenges, and furthering the IYPE motto of "Earth Sciences for Society." As the YES Network has developed as a self-organizing network, there are no membership fees or dues.

The Association of Polar Early Career Scientists (APECS – [www.apecs.is](http://www.apecs.is)) is an international and interdisciplinary organization for undergraduate and graduate students, postdoctoral researchers, early faculty members, educators and others with interests in Polar Regions and the wider cryosphere. Our aims are to stimulate interdisciplinary and international research collaborations, and develop effective future leaders in polar research, education and outreach.

The American Geological Institute is a nonprofit federation of 49 geoscientific and professional associations that represents more than 120,000 geologists, geophysicists and other earth scientists. Founded in 1948, AGI provides information services to geoscientists, serves as a voice of shared interests in the 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, resiliency to natural hazards, and interaction with the environment.

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