



Education matters



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Final term in universities – and it is full of opportunities

Opportunities for graduating students abound. No, I am not talking jobs this time around, but opportunities to network in our industry and show-case your own work.

In Melbourne the VUEESC conference (Victorian Universities Earth and Environmental Science Conference) is coming up soon and would be great to advertise your work by giving a paper. There is more information at <http://earthsci.unimelb.edu.au/events/details?event=9318>.

The conference is a one-day event providing opportunity for students (honours, masters and PhD) to show-case their work and network with a cross-section of industry and academic people. Presentations include research in the fields of Geology, Atmospheric Science, Environmental Science, Agricultural Science and Environmental Engineering.

Jarrold Dunne, geophysical specialist at Karoon Gas Australia Ltd and one industry person in Melbourne who takes a keen interest in these events, is encouraging fellow professionals to attend, and rates past conferences as a very well organised events with a wide range of geoscience presentations refreshingly presented.

Submissions of papers and posters to the VUEESC close at 5 pm on 20 October. This is only one of many such occasions sponsored by the ASEG and other geoscientific societies around the country. Check with your local branch for details of future dates. Also be sure to take the opportunity to present a paper at your local branch Student Night usually held in November or December.

The future of mineral exploration in Australia

I wrote in the last issue about the optimistic assessment by the World Bank on the future of the mineral industry in a future sustainable low-carbon industrial world ('Clean Energy Transition Will Increase Demand for Minerals – World Bank', *Preview* August 2017). Complementing that global viewpoint we have the new release of a Road Map for mineral exploration in Australia, using new technologies to search under regolith cover. See the article by AMIRA's Adele Seymon and Joe Cucuzza in this issue of *Preview* ('Australia's mining industry has a plan'); it has been a huge project using input from 208 people over the past two years, and, if a career in mineral exploration figures in your ideas or job interviews, you can't miss the opportunity to be informed by this study.

Call for summaries of student theses completed in 2017 for the December issue of *Preview*

As you complete your thesis and plan your future, ensure you provide a summary of your thesis to *Preview* before leaving campus (previeweditor@aseg.org.au). The December issues of *Preview* are a marvellous opportunity for first publication of student work and remember, everyone in industry reads this material and it is your chance to catch the eye of some future employer who really needs some of your newly developed expertise!

Careers event in WA: 'You can't beat a career in geoscience'

ASEG's WA branch, together with four other geoscience societies, hosted a Careers in Geoscience day on August 22. University students from Curtin and UWA had the opportunity to meet with representatives from the resources industry and academia for the annual event; a total of 40 students, and representatives from 14 organisations, spanning petroleum exploration, mining, service providers, consulting, and professional associations convened at the Technology Park Function Centre in Bentley to discuss geoscientific careers over drinks and canapes.

The event highlighted the range of career opportunities available for budding geoscience students after they finish their studies. It was organised through a collaboration of the Australian Institute of Geoscientists (AIG), the Geological Society of Australia (GSA), Earth Science Western Australia (ESWA), the Australian Society of Exploration Geophysicists (ASEG), and the International Association of Hydrologists Australia (IAH). Careers in Geoscience was generously sponsored by several exhibitors, including CSA Global, CGG, Curtin University, Evolution Mining, Newmont Australia, PGS Australia, Reflex, Southern Geoscience Consultants and UWA. The Petroleum Exploration Society of Australia (PESA) also exhibited and ConocoPhillips Australia contributed to catering for the event.

Drew Bellamy from Westernex Raytrac presented the keynote address on his career in geoscience and entrepreneurship. He suggested that the three critical components for a successful career in geoscience are networking, curiosity, and resilience; fitting, given the Careers in Geoscience event facilitated these three components.

John Grigson, a third-year student from UWA, attended the event as he believed it would be a 'good opportunity to meet other members of the geoscience community and work on developing a

network of contacts, discuss geological topics of interest in a more social setting, and ideally learn something new from my interactions', adding that he 'achieved all these things on the night and thoroughly enjoyed the experience'.

It wasn't just the students who gained from the night. Ned Howard from Evolution Mining commented that 'Attending the Careers in Geoscience event gave us the opportunity to interact and connect with engaged students

who want to be part of the industry, and these are exactly the people we want working for us at Evolution'. And Kathlene Oliver, General Manager at the Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety, said that events like Careers in Geoscience are an invaluable tool for generating interest in studying fields of geoscience, creating the future expertise needed to grow the resource sector. This event gives students a chance to learn about geoscience careers from industry people, consultants and academics.

The event showcased part of what makes a career in geoscience so rewarding: passionate people getting together to share ideas and experiences. The success of the event was made possible by the sponsors, organising committee, and of course the students. You clearly can't beat a career in geoscience!

Thanks to Al Harvey, one of the organising committee for Careers in Geoscience, for this overview and photo.



Students entering the 'guess the age of the zircon' competition at the GSA booth.