

Sunset clause

Another conference is over and what a great success. Despite, or perhaps because of, the downturn in exploration there was a record attendance for an ASEG-PESA Conference with more than 1200 delegates. Over 200 of these delegates came from outside Australia. Clearly more people recognise the importance of the event, not only if they are exploring in the region but also if they are exploring where Australian companies are active.

The range of countries from which delegates came also shows the importance of Australian exploration geophysics in the global community. Brazil, Cameroon, Canada (36), Chile, China, Denmark, Dubai, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Ghana, Hong Kong, India, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mali, Mexico, Mongolia, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, South Korea, Sweden, Thailand, UAE, United Kingdom and USA (31) were all represented.

The West Australian Minister for Mines opened the conference and, following my piece on short-termism in the conference issue of *Preview*, I thought it was an opportune moment to remind him that WA's wealth comes from the ground. The Minister then showed us what a great job the state government is doing with exploration incentives. However, without some government intervention at federal level we are unlikely to break the nexus between exploration investment and commodity prices. We all know that a discovery takes perhaps a decade to come into production, but that is not the way the investment community works. They pump money into exploration, even at grassroots level, when commodity prices are high. While I would hate to see significant government intervention, I believe that some gentle help in the way of some kind of flow through tax concessions for exploration would greatly assist. I know that the Federal Government is considering an Exploration Development Incentive scheme (*Preview* October 2014) but we badly need it now. I have written to the Federal Treasurer (and copied all of the State and Territory Ministers for Mines) asking him to make the EDI a high priority. A copy of my letter is appended to this piece. Sadly we have seen promises of this kind of

support for exploration from political parties before but nothing has ever eventuated.

It was pleasing to see a large student contingent at the conference and I was invited to give some motivational talks to students in the exhibition area. It was therefore of some concern to me that I gave these talks knowing that many of my colleagues are out of work. I did address this issue in the opening session. Those of you who are underemployed should now be working harder than ever. There are mountains of data in mines departments around Australia, most of which are freely available for download. Nobody but you has the time to review this data. Develop a concept, perhaps with a few colleagues, and work on the idea with the available data. Get a team together with complementary skills. Perhaps you could try for the inaugural Frank Arnott Award, which has been announced in this issue of *Preview*. If not, there are still companies looking for good projects and they will grow in number over the next year. Even if your project doesn't get financial support it is sure to impress at your next interview. Be ready for the next boom.

I was pleased to see a young Monash graduate working the exhibition room with well-prepared business cards. I understand a job was offered following the conference. Well done!

All I can say for other graduates is to keep trying. I graduated in a major downturn in 1974. It took over eight months to get a job as a field assistant on a geochemistry programme. In the meantime I laid sewerage pipes, built footpaths and stone walls and mowed playing fields but, I have never really been out of work since. For graduates local society branch meetings are a key networking opportunity and, if you have not yet graduated, you should start making yourself known to the industry by attending as many meetings as you can. I don't just mean the ASEG, but AIG and other industry meetings like SMEDG and MEGWA. Remember most jobs in this industry are not advertised. In the current market an advertisement will attract so many replies that it will take an age to evaluate them so many potential employers are happy to employ someone they already know. Unless your CV jumps off the desk at them you haven't

got a chance. So, go to meetings regularly and, if you answer an advertisement, make sure you put your picture on the application and also mention you are an ASEG Member!!! I shouldn't need to add that being on an ASEG State Branch Committee is also an advantage. It shows you are a true professional in the field.

There is some concern within the industry about some methods claiming to be geophysical without having demonstrated a solid basis in physics. I have written to the Chief of CSIRO to see whether CSIRO would assist us in evaluating such 'new' techniques. The reply made it clear that CSIRO has neither the mandate nor the resources for such work. It is an area where most people run for cover because of fear of litigation. As the ASEG is a learned society, publishing one of the most respected journals dealing with exploration geophysics, it is believed by many in the Society that the ASEG is the body that should evaluate emerging techniques. Normally this is done through publication in a peer reviewed journal such as *Exploration Geophysics* but some promoters of new techniques do not want to go down that path for various reasons. How do we as a Society evaluate new techniques and in so doing protect 'geophysics' as a profession?

At the conference we introduced a new session on emerging technologies. The ADROK group presented an overview on the Atomic Dielectric Resonance method and a case history from Charters Towers followed. The audience failed to be impressed and a lively session of questions eventuated. The physics behind the method was not explained. I got a similar feeling from presentations on this method that I attended at the SEG in Denver. I believe that unless this group can publish a sound basis for the method in a peer reviewed journal then they cannot claim to be using a geophysical method. ADROK now have papers up on their website that suggest that the ASEG has given some legitimacy to the method. This is not true. Conference papers are not reviewed and these papers were only accepted on the basis that the presentations would be videoed and there would be an extended discussion session. The presenters at the conference did not understand how the method worked and I invite ADROK to submit a paper to

Exploration Geophysics on the geophysical basis for their method.

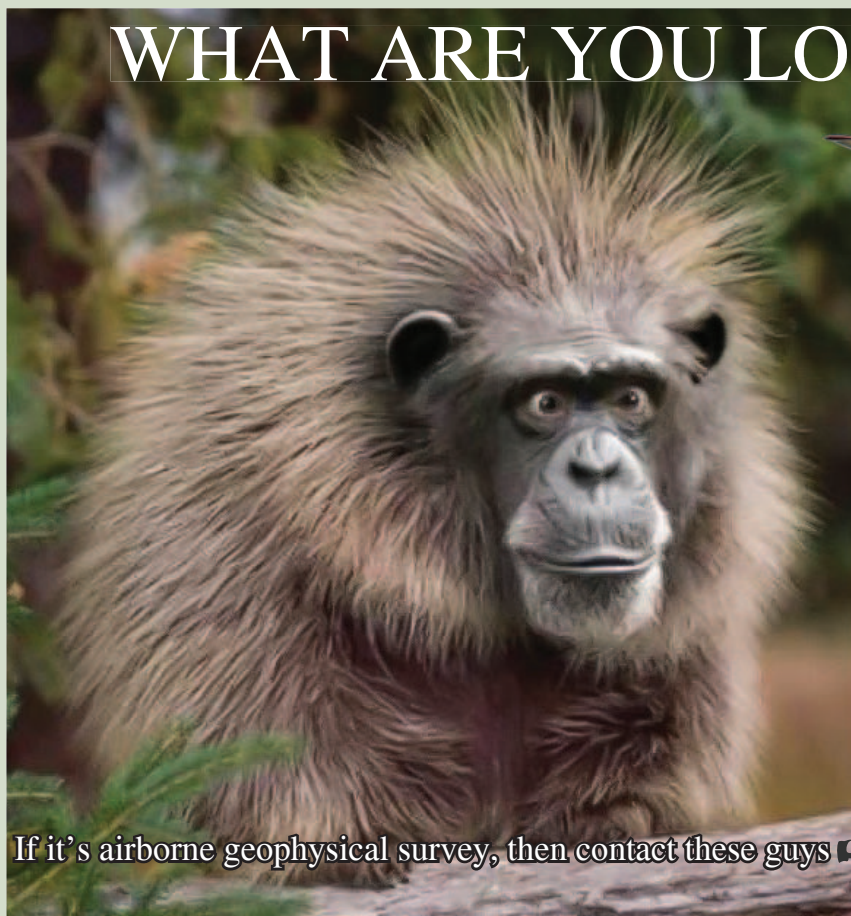
We intend to continue with similar sessions at ASEG conferences. I would like to hear feedback from ASEG members on their feelings about the session at ASEG-PESA 2015 and whether it should be continued at future conferences. Please let us have your thoughts and write to the Society through the *Preview* Editor.

This will be my last presidential piece. I hope you have enjoyed reading these pieces and I believe that I will finish my term as ASEG President with the Society in better shape than I found it. As I drive off into another West Australian sunset I congratulate my predecessors, who have done so well, and I wish the best to future Federal Presidents. This was my second term as President and, as previously, I found the role to be rewarding. Any effort on my part was well repaid.

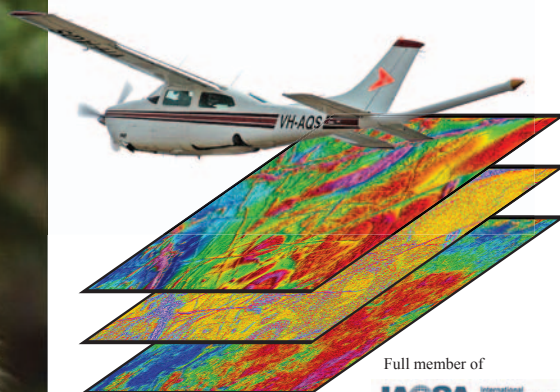
Greg Street
ASEG President
president@aseg.org.au



WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT !



If it's airborne geophysical survey, then contact these guys



Full member of
IAGSA
International Airborne Geophysics
Safety Association

FIXED WING & HELICOPTER PLATFORMS

Highest quality & resolution

ELECTROMAGNETICS
RADIOMETRICS
MMAGNETICS
GRAVITY

THOMSON AVIATION
Airborne Geophysical Survey



David Abbott david@thomsonaviation.com.au
Paul Rogerson paul@thomsonaviation.com.au

P : +61 2 69603800
W: thomsonaviation.com.au

Letter to the Hon. Joe Hockey, Treasurer of the Commonwealth of Australia, from Greg Street President of the Australian Society of Exploration Geophysicists.



Australian Society of
Exploration Geophysicists

The Hon Joe Hockey
Treasurer of the Commonwealth of Australia
PO Box 1107
North Sydney
NSW 2059
(J.Hockey.MP@aph.gov.au)

11 March 2015

Dear Mr Hockey

I write to you at a time when many Australian exploration geophysicists, my “constituents”, are unemployed. The Australian mining industry has been through boom and bust cycles since the gold rushes of the 1850s. However, the current bust has resulted in a slump in employment that is as bad as when I graduated in 1974. At a recent national conference of Australian Exploration Geophysicists I gave motivational talks to both secondary and tertiary students knowing full well that there are no jobs for them in the mining industry. Not only are individuals suffering but the nation, and your budget, is suffering from the current downturn in the mining industry.

Australia is a land rich in mineral wealth but most of what we can find close to the surface has already been found. The next wave of discoveries will come from using geophysical techniques that can ‘see’ into the earth and, most particularly, through the deep cover of weathered material that mantles most of the continent. Exploration under cover is difficult and new discoveries at depth will take longer to develop. Currently there is a lag of 10 – 15 years between discovery and development for most successful projects. These lag times will almost certainly increase, especially if the boom and bust cycle of investment in exploration and mining continues.

The primary driver for investment in Australian mineral exploration is commodity prices. These are currently low and, as a consequence, exploration expenditure has fallen to levels not seen for more than a decade (Figure 1). I suspect that most of the exploration that is being carried out is occurring near existing mines and that work on truly new concepts/projects, that might result in the discovery of large deposits is almost non-existent.

A secondary driver of investment in exploration in Australia is investor confidence. The boom bust cycle combined with long lag times between discovery and development mean that if exploration carried out in a boom times results in the discovery of a deposit then development of that deposit will almost certainly be delayed by a bust. A small company may not survive the bust, resulting in a loss of opportunity for investors and for Australia. Eventually investors may shun small exploration and mining companies altogether.



Australian Society of
Exploration Geophysicists

In this regard I urge you, as Treasurer of the Commonwealth of Australia, to expedite your proposed Exploration Incentive Scheme. This scheme will encourage investment in small exploration and mining companies by passing on tax credits to investors. If a meaningful amount of money (hundreds of millions) is spent on exploration in coming years then the groundwork will be set for major discoveries and Australia's future prosperity.

Yours Sincerely

Gregory Street
President

Australian Society of Exploration Geophysicists

T: +61 8 93849513 | M: +61 (0) 438932230

PO Box 576, Crows Nest, NSW 1585

Web: www.aseg.org.au | email: president@aseg.org.au

cc State Ministers for Mines SA, WA, NT, NSW, Vic. Tas, Qld.

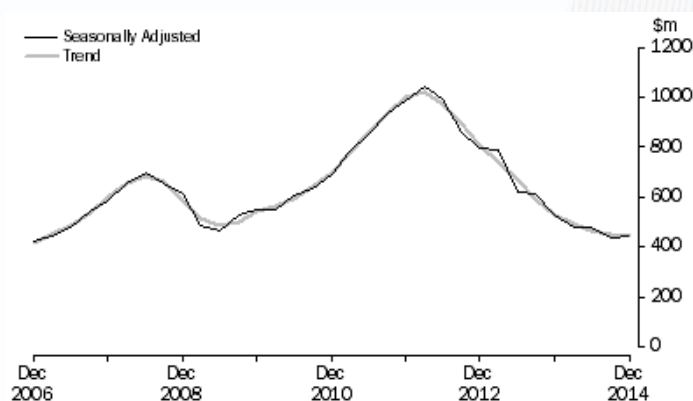
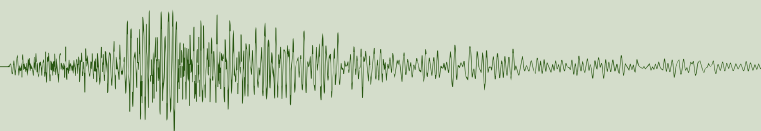


Figure 1: Mineral Exploration; seasonally adjusted and trend. Source ABS



Welcome to new members

The ASEG extends a warm welcome to 23 new members approved by the Federal Executive at its January and February meetings (see table).

First name	Last name	Organisation	State	Country	Membership type
Aidan	McKenzie	Macquarie University	NSW	Australia	Student
Allen	Rodeghiero	Woodside Energy Ltd	WA	Australia	Active
Andrew	Jaunzems	Rio Tinto Exploration	WA	Australia	Active
Andrew	Merdith	The University of Sydney	NSW	Australia	Student
Babatunde	Adekoya	University of Western Australia	WA	Australia	Student
Carmine	Wainman	University of Adelaide	SA	Australia	Student
Colin	Fleming	Geophysical Services Ltd	WA	Australia	Active
Doug	Kepert	Fortescue Metals Group	WA	Australia	Active
Dragos	Gavrilu	Surtech Systems	WA	Australia	Active
Efthymios	Efthymiou	Chevron	WA	Australia	Active
Fariba	Kohan Pour	University of Western Australia Centre for Exploration Targeting	WA	Australia	Student
Lauren	Swann	Monash University	VIC	Australia	Student
Nathan	Freeman	Black Geoscience	VIC	Australia	Active
Nicholas	Barnett-Moore		NSW	Australia	Student
Paul	Vickers	Petroleum Geo-Services Asia Pacific		Singapore	Active O/S
Perla	Pina-Varas	University of Western Australia Centre for Exploration Targeting	WA	Australia	Active
Rashed	Abdullah	University of Queensland	QLD	Australia	Student
Remke	Van Dam	Gap Geophysics	WA	Australia	Active
Robert	Adams	Petroleum Geo-Services Asia Pacific		Singapore	Active O/S
Sarah	Firth	Silverlake Resources	WA	Australia	Active
Tianyou	Chen	CGG		Canada	Active O/S
Tony	Parks	Quantec Geoscience	NSW	Australia	Active
Xiuping	Liu	Curtin University	WA	Australia	Student



Subscribe now to our **FREE** email early alert or RSS feed for the latest articles from *PREVIEW*

www.publish.csiro.au/earlyalert



ASEG Federal Executive 2014–15

Greg Street: President (AGC Representative, History and Honours and Awards Committees)
Tel: (08) 9388 2839
Email: president@aseg.org.au

Phillip Schmidt: President-Elect (Publications Committee)
Tel: 0410 456 495
Email: presidentelect@aseg.org.au

Barry Drummond: Secretary
Tel: (02) 6254 7680
Email: fedsec@aseg.org.au

Theo Aravanis: Treasurer (Finance Committee Chair)
Tel: (03) 9242 3327
Email: treasurer@aseg.org.au

Koya Suto: Immediate Past President (International Affairs Committee Chair, Research Foundation)
Tel: (07) 3876 3848
Email: pastpresident@aseg.org.au

Katherine McKenna: Vice President (Membership Committee Chair)
Tel: (08) 9477 5111
Email: membership@aseg.org.au

Kim Frankcombe: Past President (AGC Representative, Conference Advisory Committee and Technical Standards Committee)
Tel: (08) 6201 7719
Email: kfrankcombe@iinet.net.au

Wendy Watkins (Education Committee Chair)
Tel: (02) 9921 2010
Email: education@aseg.org.au

Tania Dhu (State Branch Representative, Specialist and Working Groups Liaison)
Tel: 0422 091 025
Email: branch-rep@aseg.org.au

Standing Committee Chairs

Finance Committee Chair: Theo Aravanis
Tel: (03) 9242 3327
Email: treasurer@aseg.org.au

Membership Committee Chair: Katherine McKenna
Tel: (08) 9477 5111
Email: membership@aseg.org.au

State Branch Representative: Tania Dhu
Tel: 0422 091 025
Email: branch-rep@aseg.org.au

Conference Advisory Committee Chair: Michael Hatch
Email: cac@aseg.org.au

Honours and Awards Committee Chair: Andrew Mutton
Tel: (07) 3278 5733
Email: awards@aseg.org.au

Publications Committee Chair: Peter Hatherly
Tel: 0417 463 832
Email: publications@aseg.org.au

Technical Standards Committee Chair: Tim Keeping
Tel: (08) 8226 2376
Email: technical-standards@aseg.org.au

ASEG History Committee Chair: Roger Henderson
Tel: 0408 284 580
Email: history@aseg.org.au

International Affairs Committee Chair: Koya Suto
Tel: (07) 3876 3848
Email: pastpresident@aseg.org.au

Education Committee Chair: Wendy Watkins
Tel: (02) 9921 2010
Email: education@aseg.org.au

Research Foundation Chair: Philip Harman
Tel: (03) 9909 7655
Email: research-foundation@aseg.org.au

Research Foundation – Donations: Peter Priest
Email: priest@senet.com.au

ASEG Branches

Australian Capital Territory

President: Marina Costelloe
Tel: (02) 6249 9347
Email: actpresident@aseg.org.au

Secretary: Millie Crowe
Tel: (02) 6249 9846
Email: actsecretary@aseg.org.au

New South Wales

President: Mark Lackie
Tel: (02) 9850 8377
Email: nswpresident@aseg.org.au

Secretary: Sherwyn Lye
Tel: (02) 8960 8417
Email: nswsecretary@aseg.org.au

Queensland

President: Fiona Duncan
Tel: (07) 3042 7502
Email: qldpresident@aseg.org.au

Secretary: Megan Nightingale
Tel: (07) 3839 3490
Email: qldsecretary@aseg.org.au

South Australia & Northern Territory

President: Joshua Sage
Tel: 0438 705 941
Email: sa-ntpresident@aseg.org.au

Secretary: Michael Dello
Tel: –
Email: sa-ntsecretary@aseg.org.au

NT Representative: Tania Dhu
Tel: 0422 091 025
Email: nt-rep@aseg.org.au

Tasmania

President: Mark Duffett
Tel: (03) 6165 4720
Email: taspresident@aseg.org.au

Secretary: Anya Reading
Tel: (03) 6226 2477
Email: tassecretary@aseg.org.au

Victoria

President: Asbjorn Christensen
Tel: (03) 9885 1378
Email: vicpresident@aseg.org.au

Secretary: Seda Rouxel
Tel: 0405 821 575
Email: vicsecretary@aseg.org.au

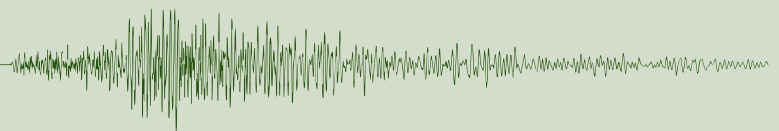
Western Australia

President: Kathlene Oliver
Tel: 0411 046 104
Email: wapresident@aseg.org.au

Secretary: David Farquhar-Smith
Tel: 0409 840 503
Email: wasecretary@aseg.org.au

The ASEG Secretariat

Ben Williams
The Association Specialists Pty Ltd (TAS)
PO Box 576, Crows Nest, NSW 1585
Tel: (02) 9431 8622
Fax: (02) 9431 8677
Email: secretary@aseg.org.au



2015 ASEG council meeting: communiqué to members

The Society's Council met on 15 February in Perth, just prior to the 24th Geophysical Conference and Exhibition.

Members of the Federal Executive and representatives of the Branches and the committees that advise the Society on the running of its business attended Council. The Honorary Editors of *Preview* and *Exploration Geophysics* also attended, as did several Past Presidents.

Council is broadly representative of the Society. It is a forum in which the Federal Executive, its committees and the Society's Branches exchange information and consider issues of strategic importance to the Society. While resolutions of the Council are not binding on the Federal Executive, the Federal Executive values the advice of Council.

In the first part of the Council meeting the President and the Treasurer presented reports on the activities of the Society over the last year and indicated key strategic and financial issues that will be dealt with over the next year. Each Branch then reported on its activities since the last Council meeting, its plans for the next year, and highlighted any issues that it considers might lead to the more efficient running of the Society or provide Members with better services.

All Branches asked the Federal Executive to ensure the Society maintains strong ties with the SEG and EAGE in order to ensure an ongoing supply of world class lecturers and courses that the Branches can provide to their Members, and for the Society's OzSTEP programme to continue and be strengthened.

The Society will arrange a questionnaire for Members during 2015 asking, amongst other things, what courses Members would like to see made available.

Several Branches noted that attendance at technical nights can be as low as 10% of the Branch membership. The questionnaire to be circulated in 2015 will also canvass what Members want from their technical nights.

The meeting also noted that the Branches are very much capital-city dominated and that Members in regional centres do not

get the same access to regular technical meetings as city-based Members. Council discussed whether Branch meetings could be web cast; this is technically possible but consideration will need to be given to whether it will disrupt the financial arrangements some Branches have in place to support their meetings.

The change of the Society's Secretariat to The Association Specialists (TAS) in Sydney has led to a marked improvement in the robustness and capacity of the Society's membership database. Several Branches indicated that they would like to use the membership database to better understand the demographics of their Members in order to ensure that the services, including technical nights, are relevant to their members.

Branches that host Conferences and Exhibitions are entitled to a share of any surplus from the conference they host, and the Treasurer noted in his presentation that Branches that have hosted Conferences and Exhibitions tend to accumulate significant amounts of money in their accounts. Large bank balances that result from hosting Conferences and Exhibitions would be expected to be run down in the period between conferences hosted by that Branch provided that the funds are spent on activities that are consistent with our Constitution. Other smaller branches that do not have the capacity to host Conferences and Exhibitions tend to have smaller bank balances. The Federal Executive is keen to ensure equity for all members. The Treasurer presented a proposal whereby the amount of funds that can be accumulated by a Branch could be capped in the future. Branches agreed to work with the Treasurer to find an equitable solution for all members.

The second part of the meeting considered a paper that had been circulated in advance of the meeting in which ways to strengthen the Society's education (including professional development) activities and publications strategies were discussed. In general the meeting was in agreement with the proposals in the paper. Key points in the paper that are not included in the discussion points above are:

1. The questionnaire that will be circulated later this year to canvass what courses and speakers members want will also ask what special publications they want, and the form in which they want publications and services delivered.
2. The meeting also endorsed a proposal to consider strategies to expand the geographic reach and readership of *Exploration Geophysics*. This will require discussions with other like-minded societies and Members will be advised when a way forward is clear.
3. We need to develop a holistic promotional strategy for the society. It should cover the benefits of membership stressing the products and services we provide. It should also promote our products and services to non-member geophysicists in Australia and overseas. We also need to prepare display material that promotes careers in geophysics at student nights, and to be used in ASEG booths at conferences run by geophysical societies overseas.
4. We need to market our courses such as OzSTEP and publications, especially our special publications.
5. We need to streamline the sales of our products. A list of our special publications is now available on our website. Because of variable postage rates and discounts for multiple purchases we have found it difficult to attach these to a shopping cart and Members are currently required to download and complete an order form; however, we will work to improve this via a shopping trolley on the website.
6. The range of publications and services that can now be delivered on-line is significant. If we are to use our website to deliver non-traditional material through downloads, e.g. podcasts and webcasts of lectures, we will need to further expand our website. The meeting noted that a session at the Perth Conference and Exhibition was to be video-taped and would be used as a pilot project to deliver video material via our website.

Barry Drummond
Honorary Secretary
fedsec@aseg.org.au

Tasmania

An invitation to attend Tasmanian Branch meetings is extended to all ASEG Members and interested parties. Meetings are usually held in the CODES Conference Room, University of Tasmania, Hobart. Meeting notices, details about venues and relevant contact details can be found on the Tasmanian Branch page on the ASEG website.

Mark Duffett (Tasmanian Branch President)

Victoria

On Wednesday 10 December 2014 the Victorian Branch of the ASEG celebrated the festive season at the Annual ASEG-PESA-SPE Societies Christmas Lunch at the Victoria Hotel in Melbourne's CBD. The theme was 'Exploration in Africa'.

On Wednesday 11 February 2015 Members of the ASEG enjoyed the joint ASEG-PESA-SPE Summer Social Function at the Boat Builder's Yard in Melbourne's South Wharf. This was an excellent opportunity to network with fellow geophysicists and to plan the activities for the ASEG-PESA 2015 conference the following week.

On Friday 20 March the ASEG Victoria Branch hosted a technical lunch meeting with the SEG Pacific South Honorary Lecturer **Greg Beresford** presenting 'Some interesting concepts associated with seismic seafloor acquisition' drawing on his many years working with Ocean Bottom Cable seismic. Many thanks to Karoon Gas for providing the venue.

We look forward to seeing many ASEG Victoria Branch members at meetings in the coming months.

Ashbjorn Norlund Christensen (Victorian Branch President)

Western Australia

After the Christmas-New Year break, the WA Branch Committee was busy supporting/assisting the Federal Committee with arrangements for ASEG-PESA International Conference-Perth, which was held from 16 to 19 February with a record attendance.

Student Events at ASEG-PESA Conference included the following activities:

- Guiding student groups around the exhibition space to a predetermined group of booths, slots allocated across the day on Tuesday 17 February;
- Conducting mock interviews with students on Tuesday 17 February;
- Mentoring / guiding university students during the conference and taking them around the exhibition and introducing them to other industry professionals;
- Presentations by industry, government and university representatives on career options in geoscience for graduates.

All the student events were organised by a team led by **Adrian Noetzli**. A big THANK YOU to the team, WELL DONE. Also thank you to **Chris Elders** (Curtin University), **Kerrie Deller** (Woodside Energy), and **Millie Crowe** (Geoscience Australia) for donating their time to present at the Careers in Geoscience session.

On Wednesday, 4 March SEG Distinguished Lecturer **Dr Jean Virieux** delivered a very interesting talk on 'Hierarchical seismic imaging: A multi-scale approach'. This event was held at City West Function Centre and was attended by about 50 Members & non-members. The sponsor of this event was CGG's Seismic Imaging Group.

On Wednesday, 11 March we were fortunate to host a second SEG lecturer. This time it was **Dr Greg Bresford**, a SEG HL Lecturer, who presented on some interesting concepts associated with seismic seafloor acquisition. The presentation, which was sponsored locally by Woodside Energy and again held at the City West Function Centre, was followed by a dinner with Dr Beresford.

It seems we are going to have another busy year with many speakers lined-up and more workshops and social event in the pipeline. On 8–9 June 2015 the WA Branch will co-convene a seminar for Water Management for Tight and Shale Gas with the Society of Petroleum Engineers and the International Association of Hydrogeologists. Registrations are now open for early-bird entry, see the website <https://www.iah.org.au/events/watershale2015/>

John Joseph on behalf of Kathlene Oliver (WA Branch President)

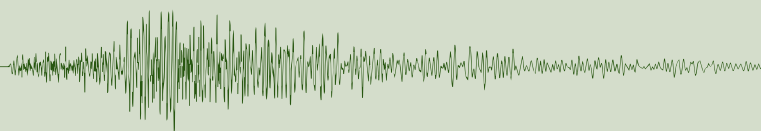
Australian Capital Territory

ASEG ACT held its annual AGM on 4 March at Geoscience Australia with about 20 members in attendance. We congratulate our Committee on their election; **Ray Tracey**, **Eva Papp**, **Bill Jones**, **Ned Stolz** and new comer **Phillip Wynne**. We thank **Millicent Crowe** for agreeing to stay on in her position of Secretary of the Branch, we are very grateful to her for her continued enthusiastic and constructive work for our Branch. Also, thanks to **Ross Costelloe** for agreeing to stay on in the Treasurers role, thank you for your patience in this time of transition. **Marina Costelloe** also is staying on as Branch President.

Dr Peter Milligan spoke on his career as an ASEG member after the AGM. Peter Milligan joined Geoscience Australia (then the Bureau of Mineral Resources) in 1985. He has experience of every aspect of aeromagnetic survey practice, from field work with the then BMR aircraft (Aero Commander and Twin Otter), to map production and



Dr Jean Virieux presenting to the WA Branch of the ASEG.



Dr Greg Beresford presenting to the WA Branch of the ASEG.

interpretation, from analogue to working on the National Computational Infrastructure (NCI). His PhD thesis, studying magnetic-field fluctuations with time, was a fantastic grounding in magnetic observations. Dr Milligan has attended and presented at ASEG conferences since 1985. Since the 2005 IAGA meeting in Toulouse, France, he has been associated with, and on the Task Force and Executive Committee of, the World Digital Anomaly Map (WDMAM), which reports to the Working Group V-MOD of IAGA. He was present at the first release of this map in Italy in 2007, and in connection with world map development has attended subsequent meetings of IAGA, IUGG and the International Geological Congress in Brisbane in 2012. Internationally, Peter was the Australian contributor on the executive committee of the International

Association of Geomagnetism and Aeronomy (IAGA) and in 2007 the first World Digital Magnetic Anomaly Map was launched at the Assembly of the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (IUGG) in Italy.

During the AGM the ACT Branch of the ASEG congratulated our local Branch Members on recent ASEG awards presented at the Perth ASEG Conference.

Dr Terry Lee was awarded the ASEG GOLD MEDAL for Distinguished Contributions to Geophysics at the Perth Conference. The ASEG Gold Medal is awarded for exceptional and highly significant distinguished contributions to the science and practice of geophysics by a Member, resulting in wide recognition within the geoscientific community. The award was given to Dr Terry Lee for his theoretical and mathematical

developments to exploration geophysics, specifically in the field of transient electromagnetics over many years. Terry's work has received world-wide accolades from a wide and diverse range of geophysicists. Appreciation of this type of work is very rarely seen for an Australian geophysicist. Terry's contributions to geophysics constitute exceptional and highly significant distinguished contributions to the science and practice of geophysics.

Dr Barry Drummond was awarded the ASEG Honorary Membership Award. This award was presented to Dr Barry Drummond in recognition of his distinguished career and outstanding contribution and leadership in geoscience spanning 40 years and nearly every aspect of geophysics, and for his on-going contributions to the ASEG.

Dr Ken Lawrie was awarded the best environmental paper/talk at the recent ASEG conference in Perth for his presentation/paper on 'Optimizing airborne electromagnetic (AEM) inversions for hydrogeological investigations using a trans disciplinary approach' (Ken Lawrie¹, Niels B. Christensen², Ross S. Brodie¹, Jared Abraham³, Larysa Halas¹, Kokpiang Tan¹, Ross C. Brodie¹ and John Magee¹. ¹Geoscience Australia ²Aarhus University, ³XRI International).

We would also like to thank our Members who organised, participated in, and contributed to events at the recent ASEG conference as varied as the Student Day, booth duty, poster presentations and technical presentations.

The ACT Branch would like to encourage you to join the ASEG on social media – just search Linked In, Facebook or Twitter for ASEG and join in the conversation.

At the time of publication the ACT branch is inviting applications for two awards for students studying geophysics or a geophysics-related discipline in the ACT. The first award is \$2000 for an outstanding undergraduate or postgraduate student (second year or above) studying geophysics or a geophysics-related discipline in the ACT. This includes honours and postgraduate students with projects using geophysical data or concepts (selection criteria apply). The second award is the student registration fee plus pre-approved travel costs to a maximum value of \$2000 for a student studying geophysics or a



Dr Peter Milligan presenting to the ACT Branch of the ASEG.

geophysics-related discipline using geophysical data or concepts in a major project to attend the ASEG conference – the next being in Adelaide in August 2016 (selection criteria apply). Applicants must be a student member of the ASEG or be in the process of applying for membership. Please contact the ACT Branch Secretary (actsecretary@aseg.org.au) if you would like an application form.

Marina Costelloe (ACT Branch President)

New South Wales

In February, we held our AGM and two of the usual suspects (**Mark Lackie** and **Sherwyn Lye**) were elected to the roles of President and Secretary. After many years of service **Roger Henderson** retired from the role of Treasurer and **William Hsin** was elected as the Treasurer for 2015. Roger was thanked for his years of ‘treasuring’ and for all the effort he has put into the NSW Branch.

Following the AGM, **Bob Musgrave** from the Geological Survey of NSW gave a talk entitled ‘The life aquatic and the life aeromagnetic: what two months on a drill ship can tell you about the Macquarie Arc’. Bob spoke about the research he undertook on the research ship JOIDES Resolution during April and May of 2014. The Expedition (IODP 350) studied undersea volcanoes of the Izu–Bonin volcanic arc, south of Japan. Bob discussed geophysical (magnetic and seismic) and geochemical similarities between the Izu–Bonin Arc and the Macquarie Arc near Orange in the NSW gold–copper belt, and implications for the current controversy over the nature of the Macquarie Arc. Bob also showed what life on a research vessel was really like.

An invitation to attend NSW Branch meetings is extended to interstate and international visitors who happen to be in town at that time. Meetings are generally held on the third Wednesday of each month from 5:30 pm at the Rugby Club

in the Sydney CBD. Meeting notices, addresses and relevant contact details can be found at the NSW Branch website.

Mark Lackie (NSW Branch President)

Queensland

Congratulations to our Branch President **Fiona Duncan** and her husband Vince who welcomed their first daughter this March!

The Queensland Branch kicked off the year with a talk and AGM on the 5th March. We welcomed back our President **Fiona Duncan**, Secretary **Megan Nightingale** and Treasurer **Henk van Paridon**.

The speaker for the evening was **Dr Ross Kleinschmidt** who is head of a team of physicists and radiochemists within the Radiation and Nuclear Science Group at the Queensland Department of Health. Dr Kleinschmidt delivered an interesting presentation on preliminary radon survey results from a historical mine in North Queensland. This March the Queensland branch will also host the SEG Honorary Lecturer **Greg Beresford**. Greg is touring with his talk on ‘Interesting concepts associated with seismic seafloor acquisition’. The Queensland branch is also looking forward to our April presentation: ‘Reflection Seismic and Mineral Exploration: Time for a New Relationship’ by **Greg Turner**.

We invite anyone who is visiting Brisbane to attend meetings of the ASEG QLD Branch and we are currently looking for speakers for 2015. Meeting notices, information about venues and relevant contact details can be found on the QLD Branch page on the ASEG website.

Megan Nightingale (QLD Branch Secretary)

South Australia & Northern Territory

The SA/NT Branch had a late start to the year following the ASEG Conference in

Perth in February. We started with our AGM, where a new committee was voted in, including President **Josh Sage**, Secretary **Michael Dello** and Treasurer **Adam Davey**, as well as an assortment of General Members to take the Branch forward. One of the key aims of the Branch in 2015 is to include our NT Members in more Branch activities. We will start by web streaming selected Technical Evenings to a venue in Darwin. The frequency of these events will be dictated by demand. Get in contact with your NT Rep (**Tania Dhu**) if there are any specific talks you like to see, and we’ll do our best to accommodate you.

Following the AGM, our first presenter of the year was **Doug Roberts** of Beach Energy. His talk, ‘Airborne gravity gradiometer surveying of petroleum systems under Lake Tanganyika, Tanzania’ was well received by a diverse audience, and highlighted some of the unique logistical and technical quirks of operating geophysical surveys in Africa.

Our technical events are made possible by our very generous group of sponsors, which in 2014 included Beach Energy, the Department of State Development, Geokinetics, Ikon Science, Minotaur Exploration, Petrosys, Santos, Schlumberger, Statoil and Zonge. We’ll be getting in contact with all of our sponsors shortly in the hope that they return for 2015. If either you or your organisation is interested in sponsoring our technical programme, please get in touch with the Branch Committee using the contact details below.

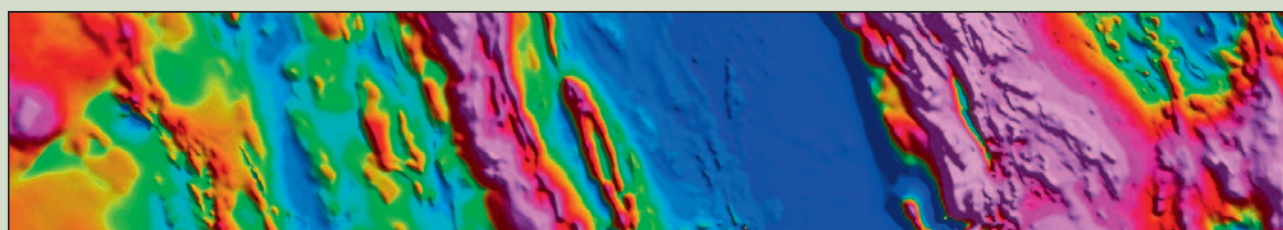
Technical evenings will continue to be held monthly, during the early evening at the Cooper’s Alehouse on Hurtle Square in the City. As ever, new members and other interested persons are always welcome to local events. For further details, please contact Josh at joshua.matthew.sage@gmail.com or 8338 2833.

Luke Gardiner (Retiring SA&NT Branch President)

ASEG calendar: technical meetings, courses and events

Date	Branch	Event	Presenter	Time	Venue
2015					
15 Apr	FEDEX	ASEG Annual General Meeting	Greg Street	1730–1900	Rugby Club, Rugby Place, Off Pitt Street, Sydney (http://www.rugbyclub.com.au/)
30 Apr	WA	Mix-it-up	PESA/ASEG/SEAPEX/FESAus		TBA
13 May	WA	Technical Night	TBA	1730–1900	City West, Function Centre, Perth
19 May	WA	Mix-it-up	IAH/SPE/ASEG		TBA
8–9 Jun	WA	Water Management for Tight and Shale Gas Seminar	Various		The Parmelia Hilton Hotel in Perth (https://www.iah.org.au/events/watershale2015)
10 Jun	WA	Technical Night	TBA	1730–1900	City West, Function Centre, Perth
25 Jun	WA	Mix-it-up	PESA/ASEG/SEAPEX/FESAus		TBA
8 Jul	WA	Technical Night	TBA	1730–1900	City West, Function Centre, Perth
30 Jul	WA	Mix-it-up	PESA/ASEG/SEAPEX/FESAus		TBA
12 Aug	WA	Technical Night	TBA	1730–1900	City West, Function Centre, Perth
27 Aug	WA	Mix-it-up	PESA/ASEG/SEAPEX/FESAus		TBA
9 Sep	WA	Technical Night	TBA	1730–1900	City West, Function Centre, Perth
29 Sep	WA	Mix-it-up	PESA/ASEG/SEAPEX/FESAus		TBA
14 Oct	WA	Technical Night	TBA	1730–1900	City West, Function Centre, Perth
29 Oct	WA	Mix-it-up	PESA/ASEG/SEAPEX/FESAus		TBA
11 Nov	WA	Technical Night	Student Presentations	1730–1930	City West, Function Centre, Perth
20 Nov	WA	Satellite InSAR Data: Reservoir Monitoring from Space (EET 9)	Alessandro Ferretti		CSIRO, Perth
24 Nov	WA	AGM and Christmas Party		1730 till late	TBA
26 Nov	WA	Mix-it-up	PESA/ASEG/SEAPEX/FESAus		TBA

TBA, to be advised (please contact your state branch secretary for more information).



Exploration Geophysics

The Journal of the Australian Society of Exploration Geophysicists

Preview

The Magazine of the Australian Society of Exploration Geophysicists

Stay informed

Keep up to date with industry news by subscribing to our email alerts or registering for RSS feeds.

www.publish.csiro.au/earlyalert



www.publish.csiro.au/journals

