

## A smorgasbord of conferences

I'd like to start my piece in this edition of *Preview* by thanking those people that took the time to respond to my last President's piece, on asking how you read your journals. From this feedback it is clear that we have good support for moving towards a digital-only option for journals when we send out the subscription notices in December.

Talking of subscriptions, each year the secretariat spends 6 months chasing up late payers, most of whom do eventually renew their subscription. The reasons for late payment vary, but a common refrain is that the person concerned has moved and their contact details have not been updated. We are working to make this process a little easier within the new website. However, given that the renewal process each year chews up a considerable amount of the secretariat's time, I would welcome any suggestions you may have that could increase the number of people paying their subs at the first call. No need to send a new cattle prod – I just need more batteries! I

personally think we are being way too soft in allowing membership rights to continue beyond the renewal date. Maybe a sudden decrease in the amount of ASEG-related mail in people's mailboxes would trigger a reaction – hopefully not one of relief!

Carina tells me that the new website is ready for testing and will hopefully go live sometime in the 5 week gap between me writing this and it landing on your desks. I look forward to crossing 'fix the website' off the Fed-Ex job list after Phil Harman put it there over 2 years ago during his term as President! There should also be a welcome drop in the email traffic to the ASEG Complaints Department (i.e., me).

Many of you will be aware of the UNCOVER initiative coming out of the Australian Academy of Science. Some of you might have also attended the associated information sessions. Although the goals of the project are worthy, they are currently not much

more than motherhood statements. As an industry outsider at their information sessions, it was hard to not get the impression that it was all about a bunch of academics fighting over a funding trough. On behalf of our members, the Fed-Ex, guided by Barry, have responded to the call for input and that response is published in this edition of *Preview* for your benefit. I understand that the UNCOVER working group are now fine tuning their proposal and that there will be a revised proposal distributed. We will keep you posted on its progress.

Conference devotees have a smorgasbord of choice laid out for them over the next few months. For those who like things induced, the 21st EM Induction Workshop will have just happened. Then, in early August, again possibly before you receive this, the 34th International Geological Congress (IGC) will be (or will have been) held. These two events represent opposite ends of the spectrum in terms of size, diversity of topics and numbers of papers, but both

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have a lot to offer. The ASEG is supporting the EM Induction Workshop in Darwin through sponsorship of student travel, and in concert with Australia's other earth science organisations is financially supporting the IGC in Brisbane, through the Australian Geoscience Council (AGC). We also have a number of volunteers, led by Mike Smith and David Denham, on organising committees and the various subcommittees required to stage this huge event. I hope that both these were great successes and that the delegates walked away with a fire in their belly for more geophysics.

In September the Korean SEG are holding their first International Conference on the resort island of Jeju off the south coast of Korea – the ASEG is supporting this conference through our volunteers. Koya Suto is on their International Advisory Board and I am on their technical papers committee. Although smaller and shorter than one of our conferences, this conference offers a different perspective from what we usually see and the Island venue looks great! See <http://2012symp.seg.or.kr/> for more information.

The second half of next year will also be busy with our own conference on in Melbourne (see notice in this edition), WABS in Perth, SAGA followed by AEM 2013 in South Africa and the first in what is planned to be a series of Pan-Pacific, Near Surface conferences. I'll have more to say about the Eureka Moment in Melbourne in future editions as the committee works to bring it to us.

The Near Surface Conferences are being organised jointly by the SEG, KSEG, SEGJ, CGS and the ASEG. The first Conference will be hosted by the CGS in China, followed 2 years later by the SEG in Hawaii. ASEG will be supporting the conference through our volunteers as well as sharing in the risk and reward on the financial side. Koya Suto is on the organising committee and Binzhong Zhou has volunteered to help with the technical programme committee. As this conference is likely to draw smaller delegate numbers than our traditional conferences, we can consider non-traditional venues when it comes our turn to host the event – possibly in 2017. For those states and territories that miss out on hosting ASEG conferences, this could prove advantageous and engaged either individually or jointly. Although 2017

seems a lifetime away, organisations will have to start in late 2015, so have a think about it at state level and make a case if you are interested.

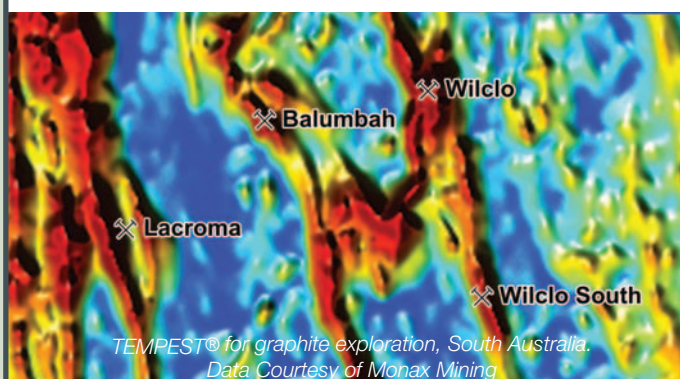
We are always on the lookout for volunteers to assist with these sister-society conferences. So if it is something you have an interest in, and are willing to help, get in touch with either Koya Suto or me.

Until next edition, happy hunting!



Kim Frankcombe  
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## New members

The ASEG extends a warm welcome to 13 new individual members (see table)

and one new corporate member to the Society. These memberships were

approved at the Federal Executive meetings held in May and June 2012.

Name	Organisation	State/Country	Member grade
William Philip Hagger	The University of Adelaide	SA	Student
Keith Peter Fisk	Geotech Airborne Pty Ltd	WA	Active
Barbara Liss	Newexco Services Pty Ltd	WA	Active
Maria Gabriela Montanez Camacho	Urdanelagazprom	Venezuela	Associate
Terrance John Lee		ACT	Retired
Sofia Alexandra Correia Lopes	Curtin University	WA	Student
Jeridene Rosanna Foreman	University of Adelaide	SA	Student
Romana Dew	University of Adelaide	SA	Student
Jeremy William Hooper	GroundProbe Geophysics	WA	Active
Matthew Kovacevic	Curtin University	WA	Student
Mahesh Raghvani	Curtin University	WA	Student
Lynelle Marie Beinke	Mithril Resources	SA	Active
Hayan Nasreddin	Santos Ltd	SA	Active

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## New South Wales

In May, Peter Hatherly, the 2012 SEG Pacific South Honorary Lecturer, from Coalbed Geoscience Pty Ltd Sydney gave a talk on 'A role for geophysical methods in meeting the resource requirements of the 21st century'. Peter outlined how the geophysical methods used by the Australian coal mining industry provide an excellent example of the emerging role for geophysics in assisting mining companies in meeting the resource requirements of the 21st century. Peter illustrated the varied applications of geophysical methods in coal mining, including those in important new areas such as estimation of greenhouse gas emissions; as well as giving insights into the future directions of mining and the significant roles that geophysics is likely to play in that future. This provoked much discussion.

In June, Steve Collins from ARCTAN Services gave a talk entitled '10 000 line km or bust – logistics of Australia's largest IP survey'. Steve spoke about the undertaking of a broad-scale gradient array induced polarisation near Orange NSW. Steve highlighted the practical difficulties of running such a survey in an area around a major regional city with many thousands of land owners, and associated infrastructure. The talk also briefly covered some of the results to date. Over 50 people attended this talk and much discussion followed the presentation.

An invitation to attend our NSW Branch meetings is extended to interstate and international visitors who happen to be in town at that time. Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month from 5:30 pm at the Rugby Club within the Sydney CBD. Meeting notices, addresses and relevant contact details can be found on the NSW Branch website.

Mark Lackie

## South Australia/Northern Territory

On 22 May we welcomed Peter Strauss from AusGeos in Adelaide who presented 'Azimuthal processing of a conventionally acquired Cooper Basin 3D survey'. A full house of 30 people attended, and it was great to see some new faces at the meeting.

On 26 June it was a pleasure to welcome John Hughes from John R Hughes Geophysical Pty Ltd who presented his 2011 ASEG keynote address 'Seismic

surveys and marine life: given the positive science and track record, what's the problem?'. With over 30 people attending, it was another full event. The talk was very well received and generated much discussion.

The SA/NT branch is helping sponsor two students to attend the International Geological Congress (IGC) in August 2012. Look out for a summary of their work in a future edition of *Preview*!

We hold technical meetings monthly, usually on a Tuesday or Thursday, at the Coopers Alehouse in Adelaide beginning at 5:30 pm. New members and interested persons are always welcome. For further details, or if you are interested in presenting a talk to the local group, please contact Philip Heath (philip.heath@sa.gov.au). If you are a SA/NT member and are not receiving emails regarding events, please update your details through [aseg@casm.com.au](mailto:aseg@casm.com.au).



John Hughes presenting at the Coopers Alehouse. The slushy machine in the background is switched off!



Peter Strauss presenting at the Coopers Alehouse.

Philip Heath

## Victoria

On 27 June, Justin Ward from ModernMag presented 'Ground magnetic surveying: economics, equipment, practice and advancements'. Justin

provided the attending ASEG Victorian Branch members with great insight into new developments and practises of ground magnetic surveying with very illuminating case studies from both gold and mineral sands exploration.

On 2 August, the ASEG Victorian Branch will host the technical presentation 'Integrating well log, seismic, and CSEM data for reservoir characterisation' by Lucy Macgregor, SEG 2011 Honorary Lecturer, Europe, from Rock Solid Images.

Later in August it is yet again time for the annual PESA-SPE-ASEG mid-winter social evening. This is always a great opportunity to network and socialise with members from our sister societies. Watch out for email flyers specifying the date and venue.

On 13 September, Graeme Beardsmore from Hot Dry Rocks will present 'Geophysical applications of precise temperature measurements' covering recent developments in rapid earth temperature and heat-flow measurements.

All technical meetings are held at the Kelvin Club within Melbourne's CBD. We look forward to seeing many ASEG Victorian Branch members at the coming meetings.

Ashbjørn Nørhund Christensen

## Western Australia

On 13 June, the WA branch held a joint technical night with the WA Branch of IAH Australia. Geoff Pettifer of GHD presented a talk entitled 'Groundwater catchment characterisation – Bundaberg Integrated Hydrogeology/Hydrogeophysics Investigation'. In the technical meeting held on 11 July, Andrew Greenwood of Curtin University presented his recently completed doctoral research, 'Hydrophone VSP imaging in hard rock environments'.

ASEG member Chris Wijns represented the geophysics profession on behalf of the society at the miningoilandgasjobs.com expo held at the Burswood Convention Centre on 25 May. Our branch is also looking forward to attending the Hale and St Mary's Schools Careers Expo in a joint geoscience effort with the AIG and PESA.

The WA ASEG branch shall host the European SEG Honorary Lecturer, Dr Lucy Macgregor, on Monday 30 July.

Dr Macgregor shall be presenting her lecture entitled 'Integrating well log, seismic, and CSEM data for reservoir characterisation'. This will be held at our usual venue at the City West Function Centre – Plaistowe Mews, West Perth from 5:30 pm onwards.

Perth will be hosting the EAGE Education Tour 7 (EET7) on 21 August. This one-day workshop is entitled 'Environmental geophysics: everything you ever wanted (needed!) to know but were afraid to ask!', and is presented by Professor Peter Styles of Keele University in the UK. Registration and venue details will follow shortly. More information on the workshop and presenter can be found at <http://lg.eage.org/index.php?evp=6922>.

Remember, applications for the ASEG WA Award for WA university students are now open. Email [asegwa@casm.com.au](mailto:asegwa@casm.com.au) for award guidelines and an application form.

The date has also been set for the event entitled 'A practical one-day workshop on airborne electromagnetics'. This will be held on Wednesday 7 November at the City West Function Centre. This event is targeted at both geologists and geophysicists and will be a seminar series focussed on practical near-surface and minerals applications of AEM. It will include practical theory, case studies and a review of recent and future developments. Registration details will be available in the coming months.

Anne Tomlinson



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