

Task Group on Global Geoscience Professionalism

c/o European Federation of Geologists
Belgian Geological Survey
Rue Jenner 13, 1000 Brussels, Belgium

Please reply to:
Ruth Allington (Chair)
rutha@gwp.uk.com

15 December 2015

International Union of Geological Sciences
Executive Committee

Attention: IUGS Secretariat

Dear Colleagues

Re: Task Group on Global Geoscience Professionalism – 2015 Annual Report and 2016 Work Plan and Budget

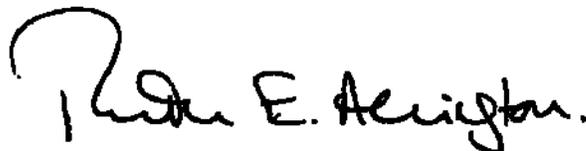
In reply to the request of 30 September from the IUGS Secretariat, I attach herewith the 2015 annual report of activities for the Task Group on Global Geoscience Professionalism, together with its work plan and budget for 2016. We apologise for the late delivery of this report, which was unavoidable given personal and professional commitments of the Officers of the Task Group and the difficulty of co-ordinating the reporting process until now.

As you know this Task Group was formed in August 2012; 2015 was its third full year of operation. We have received \$5000 for 2015 activities. This year has largely been focused on continuing to raise awareness of professionalism and ethics across geoscience and gearing towards significant contributions on this foundational topic as part of the program at IGC 35 in Capetown. Our website is www.tg-ggp.org. A summary of expenditure and income in 2015 is included in our report.

For 2016, we request IUGS financial support for the year coming in the amount of \$6000 to cover the non-voluntary contributions to our 2016 work plan (which is summarised in our report attached)

We trust this meets your requirements. Should you have any questions or require any additional information please do not hesitate to get in touch. Peter Bobrowsky, former IUGS Secretary General, has kindly agreed to present this report in person at the EC meeting in Kunming, on our behalf.

Yours sincerely,



Eur Geol Ruth Allington, C.Geol, C.Eng
Task Group Chair

Current participating professional geoscience organisations



Task Group on Global Geoscience Professionalism – 2015 Annual Report of Activities, and 2016 Work Plan and Budget

2015 ANNUAL REPORT OF ACTIVITIES

Throughout 2015, the Task Group on Global Geoscience Professionalism (TGGGP) has continued work targeted directly at the aims as set out its Terms of Reference.

Progress summary

Key activities of note during 2015 comprised:

- Several Task Group Committee meetings via GoToMeeting, as well as regular email communication throughout the year
- Continuing improvements and adjustments to our Task Group website at www.tg-ggp.org.
- Talks and presentations by the following individuals at the following events around the world, during the year concerning professional affairs in geoscience and relating directly to the work of the Task Group:
 - April 15 at EGU in Vienna, Austria: Ruth Allington and Isabel Fernandez "*Abiding by Codes of Ethics and Codes of Conduct - a Tiresome Formality or a Win-Win for Professional Integrity and Protection of The Public*"
 - May 7 at AGU Joint Assembly, Montreal, Canada: Ruth Allington and Oliver Bonham "*Global Geoscience Professionalism – The Importance of Building a More Connected Professional Community and the Role of Professional Geoscience Organizations in Supporting How Geoscientists Can Better Serve Society*".
 - September 21 at AIPG Annual Technical conference in Anchorage, Alaska, USA. Barbara Murphy "*Educational and Professional Standards for a Global Profession: information developed as part of the IUGS Task Group on Global Geoscience Professionalism (TG-GGP)*"
 - September 21 at AIPG Annual Technical conference in Anchorage, Alaska, USA. Ruth Allington and Oliver Bonham "*Global Geoscience Professionalism – Building a More Connected Professional Community, the Role of Professional Geoscience Organizations and the emerging study of Geoethics - some points of focus at TG-GGP*"
- Participating professional geoscience organization Geoscientists Canada published its *Competency Profile for Professional Geoscientists at Entry to Practice*, which can be obtained from the Geoscientists Canada website at: <http://geoscientistscanada.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/Competency-Profile-for-Professional-Geoscientists-at-Entry-to-Practice-Combined-Doc.pdf>
- In South Africa members of participating geoscience organization GSSA are involved in supporting the planning of the 35th IGC in Cape Town, with Craig Smith (GSSA) Financial Chair and Ed Swindell (GSSA) on the Geoscience for Society's Advisory panel (see more below).
- In connection with the development of the program for next year's 35th International Geological Congress in Cape Town, South Africa in 2016 ("IGC2016"), Ruth Allington (Chair) and Oliver Bonham (Secretary) were active throughout the year as Scientific Program Committee Theme Champions for the theme "Global Geoscience Professionalism and Geoethics" under the topic "Geoscience for Society". Meetings were held with the chair of the Scientific Program Committee and now nine sessions are in planning that will incorporate what used to the 4 yearly International Professional

Current participating professional geoscience organisations



Geology Conference (IPGC). At report time, active outreach initiatives were underway across all the participating and contributing organizations of TG-GGP to seek submittals of abstracts for talks for these sessions and to generally publicize the Congress across the profession, globally. Copies of some of the material are attached.

- Representing Geoscientists Canada, Oliver Bonham (Secretary of TG-GGP) is a member of the new Local Organizing Committee (LOC) for the IUGS-sponsored *Resources for Future Generations 2018* conference planned for Vancouver, BC in June of that year ("RFG2018"). Through his engagement, it is hoped that professionalism can be an underpinning theme at this inaugural event in IUGS new inter IGC conference series.
- The EFG continues to be engaged with the European Commission in Brussels as a partner in two large resources policy related projects that touch on professionalism in geoscience in Europe, with connections to the broader international arena. These are INTRAW (<http://intraw.eu/>), which EFG coordinates and MINATURA 2020 (<http://minatura2020.eu/>), in which EFG is the consortium member with responsibility for dissemination and communication. EFG is also active as a partner in a number of other H2020 project consortia where it can contribute expertise in dissemination and awareness raising of professionalism in geoscience and promoting the outputs of the projects to professional geoscience practitioners.
- Also in October, EFG attended the Workshop entitled: "*Closer ties: International Cooperation in Earth Sciences between Latin America and Europe*" in, Madrid, Spain, held to increase intercontinental relationships between Geologists' Associations. Using contacts arising, the TGGGP will send formal invitations to several entities to become members of TG-GGP.

Task Group membership and administration

The Task Group is co-ordinated by professional geoscience organisations with similar aims and objectives. In addition, as noted in the summary above and in previous annual reports, we work with a range of international organisations with interests relevant to the promotion, regulation and support of professionalism in geoscience as collaborating organisations.

To this end, TG-GGP was in collaboration with the IAPG -International Association for Promoting Geoethics (an IUGS and AGI affiliate) - for the session IAPG planned on Geoethics at the EGU General Assembly (12-17 April 2015), in Vienna, Austria. The aim of this session was to develop ethical and social perspectives on the challenges arising from human interaction with natural systems, to complement technical approaches and solutions, and to help to define an ethical framework for geoscientists' research and practice in addressing these challenges. A report of this meeting may be found at: <http://www.geoethics.org/#!egu2015-eos8/c1iym>.

Professional Geoscience Organisations

The Task Group's work is co-ordinated and led by an executive committee comprising the representatives of the professional geoscience organisations listed below. During the year attempts were made to engage professional geoscience organizations in Chile and Costa Rica to join TG-GGP but these have yet to achieve satisfactory outcomes. In 2016, it is hoped that we can encourage further national participation in the Task Group to further increase geographical coverage, and we will consult with colleagues in CRIRSCO, to identify appropriate geoscience organisations in new member countries and candidate member countries. There is also some interest from professional geoscience organisations which are already represented as part of an organisation with wide geographical coverage (*e.g.* EFG). The Executive Committee encourages such national participation and is currently in the process of considering membership categories to avoid the Executive Committee growing too large,

Current participating professional geoscience organisations



whilst not excluding national organisations with an interest in professional affairs internationally.

The current list of participating organizations is as follows:

Professional Geoscience Organisation	Geographic area	Representatives
European Federation of Geologists, EFG	Europe	Ruth Allington (EFG Past President) Isabel Fernandez (EFG Executive Director)
Geoscientists Canada	Canada	Oliver Bonham (Geoscientists Canada CEO) Jeff O'Keefe (Geoscientists Canada, Director and Treasurer)
American Institute of Professional Geologists, AIPG	USA	Barbara Murphy (AIPG Past President)
Australian Institute of Geoscientists, AIG	Australia	Wayne Spilsbury (AIG President)
Colegio de Geólogos de Bolivia	Bolivia	Osvaldo Arce (CGB President)
Geological Society of South Africa, GSSA	South Africa	Ed Swindell (GSSA Vice President of Professional Affairs) and Craig Smith (GSSA Executive Manager)
South African Council for the Natural Scientific Professions (SACNASP)	South Africa	SACNASP Executive Director – to be confirmed
Masyarakat Geologi Ekonomi Indonesia (MGEI)	Indonesia	Arif Zardi Dahlius (Chairman) Budi Santoso (General Secretary)

Officers have been appointed from this group (see below) to drive the day-to-day affairs of the Task Group. They will continue to serve into 2016. Next year it is anticipated there will be a change of officers to allow succession and renewal to take place in Executive Committee membership. It is up to participating professional geoscience organisations to follow their own internal procedures for nominating representatives to serve on the TG Executive Committee (up to 2 per organisation).

Executive Committee - Officers

<p>Chair Eur Geol Ruth Allington, C.Geol, C.Eng, (UK) Past President (2009-2013) European Federation of Geologists Joint Senior Partner GWP Consultants LLP Upton House, Market Street Charlbury, Oxfordshire, OX7 3PJ United Kingdom Tel: +44 (0)1608 810374 Fax: +44 (0)1608 810093 Email: RuthA@gwp.uk.com</p>	<p>Vice Chair Barbara H. Murphy, RG, CPG (USA) 2012 President American Institute of Professional Geologists Senior Geologist Clear Creek Associates 6155 E. Indian School Road #200 Scottsdale, AZ 85251 USA Tel: +1-480-659-7131 Fax: +1480-659-7143 Email: BMurphy@clearcreekassociates.com</p>
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Current participating professional geoscience organisations



<p>Secretary Oliver Bonham, P.Geo (Canada) Chief Executive Officer/Chef de la direction Geoscientists Canada/Géoscientifiques Canada 200- 4010 Regent St, Burnaby, B.C., Canada V5C 6N2 Tel: 604-412-4888 Fax: 604-889-3529 Email: obonham@geoscientistscanada.ca</p>	<p>Treasurer Dr. Isabel M Fernández Fuentes, EurGeol, (Belgium) Executive Director European Federation of Geologists Rue Jenner 13, 1000 Brussels, Belgium c/o Belgium Geological Survey Tel: +32(0)2 7887636 Fax: +32(0)2 6477359 Email: i.fernandez.efg@outlook.com</p>
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Collaborating organisations

The TG aims to create a network, not only with very wide geographical coverage but also bringing together organisations with interests relevant to the promotion, regulation and support of professionalism in geoscience. We are referring to these organisations as “collaborating organisations”. The current list of organisations with which we are already in contact or to which approaches are planned is as follows:

Collaborating organisation	Geographic area
African Association of Women in Geosciences, AAWG (www.aawg.org)	Africa
Committee for Mineral Reserves International Reporting Standards, CRIRSCO (www.crirSCO.com)	International
Young Earth Scientists Network, YES Network (www.networkyes.org)	International
International Association for Promoting Geoethics, IAPG (www.iapg.geoethics.org).	International
American Geosciences Institute (www.agiweb.org)	North America

The Task Group aims to increase this list of collaborating organisations in 2016 and also to build on initial contacts listed above to work on projects and initiatives – especially in relation to continuing to expand our website to provide a range of accessible and up to date information of interest to a wide range of geoscientists internationally as they anticipate a professional career in geoscience or to support their established geoscience careers (whether in academia, government, or industry)

2015 FUNDING AND EXPENDITURE

Funding in the amount of \$5,000 for 2015 was received from IUGS in early 2015 and is gratefully acknowledged. To date of this report (15 December), during the past year, \$3,000 was spent on the activities of the Task Group. About \$1,500 was spent on web updates, printing of brochures and other publicity material for distribution at international meetings, and \$1,500 was for travel to enable the chair, vice chair and secretary to attend IUGS and Task Group related meetings and make presentations about the Task Group’s activities at conferences, where travel funding could not be secured from other sources. The balance of the 2015 funding is held on account, allocated to bursaries of up to \$500 per participating organisation to support attendance of at least one representative of each of the participating organisations of TG-GGP to travel to and participate in the 5th International Professional Geology Conference planned as part of 35IGC in Cape Town in August 2016.

Current participating professional geoscience organisations



2016 WORK PLAN

The principal focus of activities during 2016 will be:

1. To continue to raise awareness of the existence of the new Task Group right across the geoscience community globally and to multiple geoscience communities;
2. To increase direct involvement in the Task Group by professional organisations from additional countries and collaborating organisations;
3. As well as additional countries, every effort will be made to search out and embrace already existing focus groups within the global geosciences community that are directing attention to different professional and ethical issues impacting both our science and its practitioners, worldwide.
4. To create a series of working groups focused on specific practice areas in professional affairs, including professional ethics in practice, mineral resources reporting, and human resources capacity;
5. Immediate support of the 36th INTERNATIONAL GEOLOGICAL CONGRESS in South Africa with a strong suite of sessions and good range of talks on Global Geoscience Professionalism and Geoethics. The 5th International Professional Geology Conference (held every four years, the last in 2012 in Vancouver) will be incorporated as part of next year's Congress.
6. Ongoing support for early stage organization for IUGS sponsored Resources for Future Generations 2018 conference planned for Vancouver, Canada in June that year ("RFG2018").
7. Ensure TG-GGP engagement in sessions on Professionalism and Geoethics at prominent international geoscience events in 2016. By way of raising awareness about the Task Group and its objectives, the committee will continue to seek out opportunities to sponsor/ co-sponsor sessions on professional affairs at various Earth Science/Geoscience conferences.

The members of the Task Group share slides from talks and presentations and maintains a growing resource of slides that presenters can access so that similar key information and messaging about the TG-GGP initiative may be brought in parallel to audiences across all events, internationally, and to many geoscience communities or disciplines. In addition the Task Group will encourage the presentation of talks from those among its ranks and others that address various aspects of professionalism in geoscience.

Current participating professional geoscience organisations

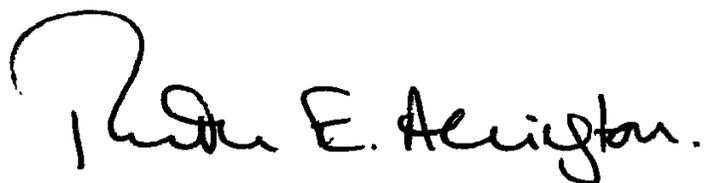


2016 Budget

For 2016, the Task Group requests financial support in of \$6000 to fulfil its activities. The following is an outline of the activities to which funding will be directed during 2016, if approved by IUGS:

Activity	Indicative expenditure
Web site content management/content improvement	\$1000
Webhosting costs	\$250
Online meeting - software licence	\$250
Design and printing pull up conference banners	\$1000
Travel subsidies for 4 individuals to attend and present on TGGGP at 1 conference each (\$500 per conference)	\$2000
Research work to improve quality and relevance of website content	\$500
Research work to bring together data on National Regulation and employment requirements in all the countries represented by the participating professional geoscience organisations and more widely	\$1000
TOTAL	\$6000

Respectfully submitted



Eur Geol Ruth Allington, C.Geol, C.Eng
Task Group Chair

Attachments/

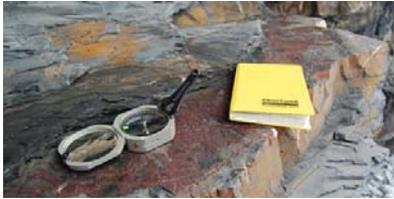
Current participating professional geoscience organisations





35TH INTERNATIONAL GEOLOGICAL CONGRESS 27 AUGUST - 4 SEPTEMBER 2016 | CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA

GLOBAL GEOSCIENCE PROFESSIONALISM AND GEOETHICS



Theme Champions



Ruth Allington
Chair IUGS
Task Group
Global

Geoscience Professionalism



Oliver Bonham
Geoscientists
Canada



Andy Clay
Venmyn
Deloitte

Additional symposium proposals must now be submitted directly to the theme champions (Please be sure to include the name of the proposer, seconder and short motivation).

31ST MAY 2015	Deadline for submission of symposium proposals
1ST JULY 2015 - 31ST JANUARY 2016	Call for abstracts
31ST MARCH 2016	Notifications of acceptance

NOTE: The acceptance of symposia and their inclusion into the scientific programme will be at the discretion of theme champions and determined eventually by the number and content of papers that are submitted.

Global Geoscience Professionalism and Geoethics

Much of the work of geoscientists results in output on which others in Society depend, either directly or indirectly. An important aspect of Geoscience for Society is, therefore, the ethical responsibility and accountability that falls to geoscientists globally, as they undertake their work. This has given rise to the promulgation of statutes, codes of ethics, conduct and practice, and technical codes standards and guidelines, similar to those of many other professions. These are promoted, developed, maintained and enforced by professional geoscience organisations (www.tg-ggp.org) and national and international standard setting and regulatory bodies.

Geoethics is an interdisciplinary field that brings together Geosciences and Ethics; it involves both Earth and Planetary Sciences as well as applied ethics (www.icog.es/iageth). Geoethics deals with the ethical, social and cultural implications of Earth Sciences education, research and practice, and with the social roles and responsibilities of geoscientists in conducting their activities (www.iapg.geoethics.org/).

This theme at IGC has attracted a diverse slate of symposium proposals focusing on both professional geoscience practice and geoethics. The Theme Champions are hoping that the symposia proposed will attract a broad range of abstracts that will give rise not only to sessions examining specific topics in geoscience professionalism and geoethics but also to cross-cutting sessions that will encompass both topics and promote dialogue between these two communities.

<http://www.35igc.org/>

The following symposium proposals have already been submitted:

- 1. Theme Champions (for TG-GGP/5IPGC organising committee)**
Professional competencies in geoscience (key issues: teaching of professional skills at university; employers' needs; fostering better understanding between universities and employers; graduate needs for career progression and advancement and/or for registration and licensure). Intended as a session of 5IPGC incorporated in 35th IGC.
- 2. Theme Champions (for TG-GGP/5IPGC organising committee)**
Ethical practice in geoscience (key issues: codes, guidelines, compliance, publishing and plagiarism, pitfalls, discipline, risks, relevance of principles to both academics and applied geoscientists). Intended as a session of 5IPGC incorporated in 35th IGC.
- 3. Theme Champions (for TG-GGP/5IPGC organising committee)**
Inconvenient truths: ethical dilemmas for geoscientists in protecting and informing the public (key issues- effectiveness, integrity and ethics of communicating expertise - through public reports, the media, academic papers, expert testimony, development of laws/regulations, teaching etc). Intended as a session of 5IPGC incorporated in 35th IGC.
- 4. Giuseppe Di Capua, P. Bobrowsky, M. Bohle, J. Geissman, S. Peppoloni. IAPG**
Geoethics: general aspects and case-studies - Geoethics develops ethical and social perspectives on challenges arising from human interaction with Earth systems, complements technical approaches and solutions, and defines ethical frameworks for geoscientists' activities. Abstracts are invited that illustrate this at the local and global scale.
- 5. Jesus Martinez-Frias (Spain), N. Nikitina (Russia), N. Nishiwaki (Japan), L. Vasconcelos (Mozambique). IAGETH**
Geoethical problems & dilemmas through the prism of new challenges of time: Concepts, methods, principles, standards & rates; exploration, subsoil & mineral resources, wastes, groundwater, geoethics on Earth/other planets; social welfare, geoethics & natural hazards & disasters; cultural situations.
- 6. Vaclav Nemec and Niichi Nishiwaki**
Geoethics From The Source
- 7. Vaclav Nemec, Niichi Nishiwaki and Nataliya Nikitina**
Theoretical Foundations Of Geoethics
- 8. Tamas Hamor**
Geology, the regulated discipline - embedding into society and economy by legislation. Aims are to discuss the importance of regulating professional geoscience activities with financial, environmental, or public safety implications and the effectiveness of regulatory frameworks in operation internationally and in key geoscience practice sectors.
- 9. Open Session**
For all submissions not included in currently identified symposia.

<http://www.35igc.org/>



35TH INTERNATIONAL GEOLOGICAL CONGRESS
27 AUGUST - 4 SEPTEMBER 2016 | CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA



CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Global Geoscience Professionalism and Geoethics at the 35th IGC in Cape Town

SUBMIT YOUR ABSTRACT BY 31 JANUARY!

[Abstract submission
guidelines](#)

Much of the work of geoscientists results in output on which others in Society depend, either directly or indirectly. An important aspect of Geoscience for Society is therefore the ethical responsibility and accountability that falls to geoscientists globally, as they undertake their work.

Within the core topic “Geoscience for Society” at 35 IGC, the **Task Group for Global Geoscience Professionalism (TG-GGP)** is involved in promoting the theme: “**Global Geoscience Professionalism and Geoethics**”. This theme

has attracted a diverse slate of symposium proposals focusing on both professional geoscience practice and geoethics. Given the large professional impact of this theme, the organisers of the International Professional Geology Conference (normally held also every four years), decided on this occasion to join efforts and hold its 5th event (5IPGC) as part of 35IGC and to champion and support this important theme at the Congress.

TG-GGP invites you to submit abstracts for the following 5IPGC sessions to be presented as part of this theme:

· **PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES IN GEOSCIENCE**

Abstracts are invited on: teaching of professional skills at university; employers' needs; fostering better understanding between universities and employers; graduate needs for career progression and advancement and/or for registration and licensure.

Abstracts will be particularly welcome on the following topics:

- Why recognition as a competent person is needed in your geographic area
- Minimum requirements for recognition
- Competent person recognition by the existing regulation in your geographic area
- International recognition

· **ETHICAL PRACTICE IN GEOSCIENCE**

Abstracts are invited on: codes of practice, codes of ethics and codes of conduct, guidelines, compliance, publishing and plagiarism, pitfalls, discipline, risks, relevance of ethical principles and practice to both academics and applied geoscientists.

· **INCONVENIENT TRUTHS: ETHICAL DILEMMAS FOR GEOSCIENTISTS IN PROTECTING AND INFORMING THE PUBLIC**

Abstracts are invited on: effectiveness, integrity and ethics of communicating expertise - through public reports, the media, academic papers, expert testimony, development of laws/regulations, teaching etc.

More information:

<http://tg-ggp.org/>

<http://www.35igc.org/Themes/13/Global-Geoscience-Professionalism-and-Geoethics>

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