



GEONEWS

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Chairman's Remarks

Welcome to the inaugural internet issue of the South Carolina Board of Registration for Geologists Newsletter. Although the activities of the Board often go unnoticed, unless you have kept up by reading the meeting minutes each quarter, the Board has been extremely busy over the past year.

The Board has issued 44 new PG licenses, one temporary license, and six GIT licenses since January 2006. In addition, the Board has begun formulating a policy for electronic submittal of documents, seeking additional reciprocal agreements with other states, attending Council of Examiners meetings to add input to the ASBOG exam questions, reviewing and pre-approving courses for CEUs (a practice previous Boards had moved away from), and widening the types of continuing education that qualifies for CEUs. Finally, the Board has also had occasion, though little known, to serve as "protector" to the "public practice of geology" by issuing one Cease-and-Desist order, levying one fine, and issuing two denials on requests to sit for exams where the applicants did not meet the minimum requirements for testing and/or licensure.

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Welcome New Registrants!

The following Geologists-in-Training and Registered Geologists were licensed in 2006:

Geologists-in-Training

Owen R. Astwood
Julie Elizabeth Friddell
Patrick William Lowery
Shaun C Malin
Richard A Mayer, Jr.
Eric M. Tucker
Chad B. Weaver

Registered Geologists

Leslee Alexander
Alex W. Amos
Marie Arrant
Peter Bayley
Susan Block

Dean Brant
Joseph Cupp
Kenneth Ernest
Stephen Farrell
Joseph Ghiold
Michael Gonshor
Stephen Gosselin
Michael Gunderson
Andrew Harrison
Brian Hutchison
Steven Jett
Thomas Keller
Daniel Kennedy
Craig L. Kennedy
Randall Lantz

David Lipson
John Maddry
Denise McCoy
John McMichael
Margaret Ness
Joyce O'Connor
Erin Palko
John Palmer
Rick Ricci
Roger Smith
Christopher Suttell
Karen Thorbjornsen
Perry Waldrep
Paul Weaver
Robert York

Meet Your Board Members



Jason Terry

Jason Terry lives in Summerville and is the president of TERRY Environmental Services, Inc.

Terry is a 1989 graduate of the University of South Carolina Geology Program. Prior to graduation, he worked with the Governor's Task Force on Litter in developing volunteer recycling programs and also with the USC Geology Department's Stable Isotope Laboratory, analyzing sediments and microorganisms for offshore oil exploration projects. Upon graduation, he began a career in environmental consulting focused on soil and groundwater investigations and remediation.

Terry is married, has two children and is a member of Kiwanis International and Rotary International.

Vernon Ichimura

Vernon Ichimura, Ph.D., is a resident of Aiken County and is the company representative on the Board. Ichimura specializes in the practice of hydrogeology and groundwater hydrology and has 25 years experience in the field of radioactive waste management. He has worked on numerous projects involving new radioactive waste disposal site development, site characterization, groundwater modeling, environmental monitoring and risk assessment.

Craig Kennedy

Craig Kennedy received a bachelor of science degree in geology in 1974 from the University of South Carolina. He worked for a consulting firm in Appalachian coalfields conduct-

ing coal reserve analysis and mine feasibility studies from 1975 through 1978.

From 1978 through 1994, he worked as staff geologist and advanced to assistant director of the Mining and Reclamation Division of the S.C. Land Resources Commission. Kennedy's primary responsibilities included coordinating review of mine permit applications throughout South Carolina and addressing issues related to geology. In 1994, the Mining and Reclamation Program transferred to the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control, where Craig continued as manager for mine permitting. From 1999 to present, he has worked as assistant director for the Division of Mining and Solid Waste Management.

Kennedy was appointed to the S.C. Board of Registration for Geologists in 1992 to fill the unexpired term of Norman (Ole') Olson, state geologist, retired. Kennedy served as Board chairman from 1994 until 2003. He has represented the S.C. Board at the National Association of State Boards of Geology (ASBOG) annual meetings as the voting delegate and has served on the ASBOG Council of Examiners.

Richard Warner

Richard Warner, Ph.D., is a professor of geology at Clemson University and is the academic representative on the Board. He specializes in teaching and conducting research in mineralogy, igneous and metamorphic petrology, and inorganic geochemistry and has published more than 40 papers in those fields.

In recent years, his studies have focused on diabase dikes and metaultramafic rock bodies in the Carolinas and the uranium mineralogy of upstate granitic rocks. Earlier in his career, he was heavily involved in the analysis of moon rocks.

How the Board Conducts Business



All Board decisions are made during quarterly Board meetings; however, much of the preparations are handled by LLR staff at the direction of the Board administrator, and, when necessary, with concurrence of the Board chairman and Board members.

Routine Board meetings are generally scheduled one year in advance, with a public announcement, in accordance with the S.C. Freedom of Information Act, prior to the meeting date.

Meetings are called to order by the chairman with a Pledge of Allegiance, followed by discussion and approval of minutes from previous Board meeting. Administrative matters are discussed next. Such matters include announcements, remarks by the chairman and administrator, legislative updates, and LLR administrative and financial matters and legal matters. These

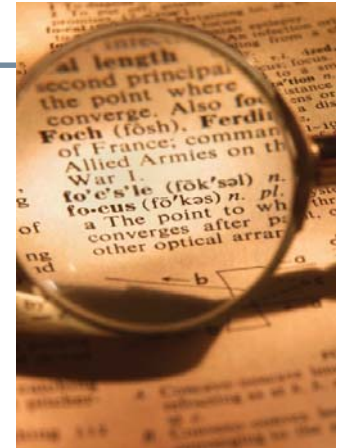
updates are generally provided to the Board by LLR staff.

Routine Board business is categorized into unfinished business, new business, discussion items, public comments and executive session. Any unfinished business is taken up first; this consists of items from previous meetings which have been placed on the agenda for final Board resolution. New business introduces items such as the approval of new licensees, approval of requests for continuing education credit, continuing education audits, etc. Discussion items can include a variety of topics, such as interpretations or clarifications of Board policies, proposed policy changes, new initiatives and future meetings. Executive session is usually reserved to seek legal advice regarding a potential Board action and to discuss potential disciplinary actions. The Board does not vote on actions while in executive session. To review Board business, meeting minutes are kept on line by LLR at www.llr.state.sc.us/pol/geologists.

Focus on Board Policies

In this newsletter and future ones, the Board will focus on selected policies or regulations that emphasize issues the geologic community should be aware of. This issue focuses on “responsible charge of work.”

As Registered Professional Geologists overseeing geologic projects, the South Carolina Geologist Practice Act requires a professional geologist to use his or her judgment to properly supervise the geologic work. Section 40-77-20 (7) defines Responsible Charge of Work, *as the independent control and direction by the use of initiative, skill, and independent judgment of geological work or the supervision of geological work.* To better define the Board’s expectations of professional geologists overseeing projects, a policy was developed to provide guidance and criteria. Professional geologists in charge of geologic projects must have the sufficient knowledge of the projects they are supervising before they place their stamp on documents of geologic work which attest to conditions regarding geology and especially to the protection of the health and safety of South Carolina’s citizens.



Responsible Charge of Work Policy 3.1.3

Purpose: Defines the supervision a professional geologist must exert as the “responsible charge of work” over a subordinate in the planning and conduct of geologic investigations and document preparation in the public practice of geology.

Professional Geologists (PG), who are the *responsible charge of work* for projects in which they supervise non-registered subordinates, must have sufficient knowledge of the projects to: 1) utilize their initiative and skill as professionals to direct the project; 2) properly direct the subordinates in the performance of their duties; and, 3) acquire the necessary knowledge to sign and seal geologic documents. Such supervision includes, but is not limited to: oversight in the planning and conduct of geologic investigations; review and consent to project modifications; direct and personal knowledge of site conditions; review and consent of geologic interpretations; and, knowledge of project data in sufficient detail to make independent judgments. Actual time spent by the PG, as the “*responsible charge of work*,” in supervising subordinates is highly variable and will depend on many factors (e.g., personnel experience, project complexity, complexity of geology, etc.). The PG as the responsible charge of work must at all times maintain independent control and direction of a project using his/her initiative, skill and independent judgment as a professional geologist.

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In the past year, the renewal process has also undergone changes and licenses are predominantly renewed online. As with any change, there are always challenges, and I thank our Board Administrator Lenora Addison-Miles and our Administrative Assistant Linda Owens for their patience and hard work in meeting those challenges head first. To that end, please remember that regardless of mail method or delivery status, we are all licensed professionals and as such it is our responsibility to remember to renew our licenses on time.

In addition, we should remember that we are all Professional Geologists or Professional Geologists-in-Training. The more we honor our profession, the more it will honor each and every one of us.

Please enjoy the newsletter and remember that the Board serves its licensees. As such, we welcome any comments or ideas you may have on ways we can serve better.

Sincerely,

Jason A. Terry, P.G.
Chairman

2006 ASBOG Exams

Congratulations to those who passed ASBOG Exams in 2006!

Fundamentals of Geology

Leslee Alexander
Alex Amos
Owen Astwood
Stephen Farrell
Julie Friddell
Michael Gunderson
Daniel Kennedy
Patrick Lowery
Shaun Malin
Richard Mayer
Joyce O’Connor
Christopher Suttell
Chad Weaver

Practice of Geology

Leslee Alexander
Alex Amos
Marie Arrant
Susan Block
Michael Gunderson
Daniel Kennedy
John Maddry
John McMichael
Joyce O’Connor
Christopher Suttell