

National Council of The Society of  
Sigma Gamma Epsilon



NATIONAL HONORARY SOCIETY in the EARTH SCIENCES

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Hello members of Sigma Gamma Epsilon!

I hope your Fall 2022 semester is starting off well. The first few months of the semester are particularly busy and exciting ones for our SGE national officers. We look forward to hearing from you as we start the process of reinvigorating our chapters as the impacts of the pandemic lessen.

Our recently completed 46<sup>th</sup> SGE Biannual Convention (September 16 - 18, 2022) was very successful. Our hosting chapter, Eta Alpha from the University of Tennessee at Martin, did a wonderful job. The Coon Creek Science Center and the fossils collected from the Cretaceous Lagerstätte on site were a big hit with the attendees, as was the food they cooked for us! The evening talk by Dr. Roy Van Arsdale brought to life the geologic history of the Mississippi River and made me thankful I wasn't around during the earthquakes of 1811-12. We even had a chance for some constellation viewing on Saturday evening with Dr. Lionel Crews. A couple of artistic SGE attendees decorated a plaque to hang from the ceiling of the Coon Creek Science Center where it will reside among many other plaques commemorating enjoyable visits to this wonderful location. A big thank you goes out to Southeastern Province Vice President Dr. Michael Gibson for introducing us to this site.

This has been a year of significant change for the national leadership of SGE. Firstly, our Secretary-Treasurer, Dr. Jim Walters, has retired from SGE duties after decades of service both nationally and as a chapter advisor. He will be greatly missed. Dr. Rick Ford has taken over the position of Secretary-Treasurer. Dr. Ford ([rford@weber.edu](mailto:rford@weber.edu)) also has decades of experience serving SGE and I look forward to working with him. Secondly, our long-time Associate Director Paula Even will be leaving SGE to enjoy her well-earned retirement. Anyone who has been fortunate enough to meet or correspond with Paula knows how dedicated she is to SGE and how hard she worked to respond to all requests promptly and professionally. She too will be greatly missed. Dr. Lee Potter is our new Associate Director and can be reached at [potter@SGEearth.org](mailto:potter@SGEearth.org). Lastly, our National Editor-in-Chief of The Compass, Dan Curtis, had to step down from this position. We thank him for his service to SGE over the years and are pleased to welcome Janet Vote as our new National Editor-in-Chief. Janet is a Senior Lecturer at The University of Texas at San Antonio and can be reached at [janet.vote@utsa.edu](mailto:janet.vote@utsa.edu)

We are once again hosting our SGE poster session at the GSA Conference in Denver this October. We have several submissions but would welcome more at future GSA meetings. As you pursue research projects this year, please keep the SGE poster session in mind as an excellent venue to present your scholarly work. This year's poster session is scheduled for Monday, October 10<sup>th</sup> from 2 – 6 pm. If you are attending GSA please check out these posters and our SGE table in the exhibitor hall.

As you plan your activities for the upcoming year I urge you to make sure that they will be eligible to earn an Outstanding Chapter Award or a Service Chapter Award. The guidelines for these awards can be found under the "Awards" link in the "Our Community" section of our new website, <http://sgearth.org/>.

If you have any questions about your chapter standing, deadlines and the like, please contact Lee Potter at the National Office, 319-505-3391 or [potter@SGEearth.org](mailto:potter@SGEearth.org). Of course, you are always welcome to contact me directly ([SW-Bennett1@wiu.edu](mailto:SW-Bennett1@wiu.edu)) and I will answer your questions or find someone that can.

I wish you all an enjoyable and successful Fall semester,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steve Bennett". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line extending to the right.

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