

Geology and Geological Engineering

NEWS

For alumni, students, and friends of the
Department of Geology and Geological Engineering
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UND University of
North Dakota

September 2008

GSA–Homecoming Issue

Dear School of Engineering and Mines Alumni,

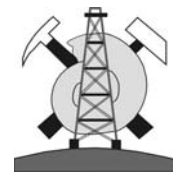
The University of North Dakota School of Engineering and Mines (SEM), and Department of Geology and Geological Engineering (GGE), are pleased to announce two exciting events occurring in October. We will host a UND SEM-GGE alumni gathering in Houston at the annual meeting of the Geological Society of America (GSA) on October 7, followed by GGE's A.G. Leonard Award homecoming banquet in Grand Forks on October 17, where we will honor one of our special alums. We hope you will consider joining us for one or both of these events.

Houston Gathering, October 7, 2008

Each year GGE hosts an alumni gathering on Tuesday evening during GSA's annual meeting. This year GSA meets in Houston and, because many geologists, geological engineers, and other SEM alumni work and live in the area, we are planning a larger and more inclusive event than usual. We invite all School of Engineering and Mines alumni, no matter their degree, to join us in toasting old and future times.

Several exciting happenings at UND make this gathering special:

- Meet the new Dean: Dean Hesham El-Rewini will attend our alumni gathering. The Dean is a native of Egypt, has been a full professor and chairman of the Department of Computer Science and Engineering at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas, since 2001. He led a department that is consistently ranked by U.S. News and World Report among the top computer engineering programs in the nation.
- Dr. Zhenwen Zeng has received a \$1 million award from the Department of Energy for a Geomechanical study of the Bakken Formation for Improved Oil Recovery.
- Oil Field Geothermal: A collaborative effort to demonstrate generation of electrical power from oil field waters includes faculty in GGE, Electrical Engineering, and Chemical Engineering.
- New GGE Faculty: GGE has hired two new outstanding faculty. Dr. Jaakko Putkonen, our new geomorphologist, conducts research on landform evolution and has projects in Antarctica, the Sierra Nevada, the Himalayas, and the Cascades. Dr. Lance Yarbrough, our new geological engineer, uses satellite data to solve geological engineering problems related to floods, earthquakes, chemical spills, etc.



Please mark you calendar and plan to join us.

The reception will begin at 5:30 p.m., Tuesday, October 7, at the Hilton Americas-Houston, 1600 Lamar Street, Room 339A, Houston, TX. This is a great opportunity to catch up on UND news and mingle with fellow UND grads. There will be heavy hors d'oeuvres, a cash bar, and some UND/SEM door prizes!

If you plan to join us in Houston, please RSVP Deb Austreng (see contact information below).

2008 Homecoming Events

Homecoming in Grand Forks, October 13-18, 2008

This year, GGE and SEM will be honoring J. Mark Erickson during homecoming. Mark will receive the A.G. Leonard Award from the Department, and will be inducted into the School of Engineering and Mines Academy. In addition, Bud and Mardi Holland will also be specially recognized by an announcement at this time.

- *At noon on Friday, October 17, there will be a luncheon for all SEM Academy inductees.*

- *Mark (and others) will officially be inducted into the SEM Academy at 3 p.m. in the new Jodsaas Center, at the north end of Harrington Hall.*
- *The GGE A.G. Leonard Award banquet will be held at the Ramada Inn on the same day, with the social hour beginning at 5 p.m. and dinner at 6 p.m.*

To register for the GGE banquet and ensure a dinner, please RSVP Carissa Green (see below).

Will Gosnold, Chair
Geology and Geological Engineering

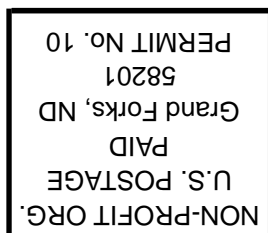
If you plan to join us for the SEM alumni gathering in Houston, October 7, please RSVP by phone or e-mail to:

Deb Austreng, Development Officer
UND School of Engineering and Mines
(701) 777-4249, debaustreng@mail.und.edu

If you plan to join us at the GGE Banquet in Grand Forks, October 17, please RSVP by phone or e-mail to:

Carissa Green, Administrative Secretary
UND Dept. of Geology and Geological Engineering
(701) 777-2248, carissagreen@mail.und.nodak.edu

To Acknowledge with Thanks – The Department is indebted to its many friends who continue to support its activities on behalf of the education and scholarship of students and the intellectual growth of faculty through financial donations. Your generosity represents a significant aspect of the success of our students and faculty. GGE covers many costs related to field trips, student presentations at conferences, and student awards (stipends) through your help. Thank you.



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