



Oregon Geologist Examiner

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Board Offices

The Association Center
707 13th Street, SE Suite 260
Salem, Oregon 97301

Phone: (503) 566-2837
Fax: (503) 485-2947
Web: www.oregon.gov/OSBGE
Email: osbge.info@state.or.us

Geology Board Members

Stephen Taylor, PhD, RG, Chair
(*Western Oregon University*)

Christopher Humphrey, RG,
CEG, Vice Chair
(*U.S. Army Corps of Engineers*)

Vicki McConnell, PhD, RG
State Geologist (*DOGAMI*)

Richard Heinzkill,
Public Member
(*Retired Librarian*)

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(*Dept of Environ. Quality*)

Mark Yinger, RG
(*Mark Yinger Associates*)

OSBGE Staff

Susanna R. Knight
Administrator

Marilou Arrobang
Registration Specialist

Jane Feinberg, RG, CEG
Volunteer Design Editor
(*GRI*)

Next Board Meeting

March 4, 2010
1:00 PM

Preceded by 8:30 AM
Work Session
Salem, Oregon

Board Outreach Impacts New State Science Standards

During the past two years, Board Member Stephen Taylor participated on the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) Science Content and Assessment Panel. The working group was comprised approximately 30 education professionals charged with reviewing the Oregon K-12 science curriculum. The previous standards were set in 2001 and every 7 years, the standards are reviewed and updated. The K-12 Content Standards define what all students are expected to know and be able to do. By state law, these standards serve as a guide for local school districts in establishing science curriculum and form the basis of state test blueprints for assessment of student learning.

In June 2007, Taylor distributed a document to the Board entitled Science, Teaching and Learning Standards - Oregon Teacher Resources for 2005-07. Upon review, he expressed concern that high school standards more comprehensively addressed topics in biology, chemistry, and physics, than in geoscience. Generally, geoscience topics were lacking. Prior to the current standards revision, 7th and 8th grade science classes were the levels that focused mainly on geology and Earth science topics. Earth science courses at the high school level traditionally serve as optional electives, depending on the school district, teacher training, and interest. Given the importance of natural hazards and resources to the economic vitality of Oregon, plus the dynamic geologic landscape in which we live, the Board was concerned that geoscience was not more prominently represented in the high school curriculum.

As part of its outreach activities, the Board invited Cheryl Kleckner, ODE Science Education Specialist, to attend the October 2007 Board Work Session. Kleckner graciously shared information about science standards and diploma requirements, and noted that ODE had just embarked on the seven-year review cycle. Upon discussion of the board's concern with the paucity of high school geoscience content, Kleckner invited and Taylor volunteered to participate on the Science Panel.

Two years later, the new K-12 Science Standards are adopted, implemented and the assessment phase is currently underway. During the 2008 revision process, OSBGE geology registrants were invited by the Board to review the draft standards. Registrant response was notable and Taylor carried the suggestions forward to the ODE Science Panel. The group correctly observed that "geologists sure are passionate about their science!" Registrant voices were heard, the comments internalized, and in the end, change was affected.

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Knight's Notes

I must take a moment to share of the passing of my “geology” mentor. Douglas A. Williamson, RG, CEG (E282), Sunday evening, November 8, 2009, in Eugene, Oregon, at the age of 84. I came to know Doug early in my tenure with the Board when he called the office. That call led to numerous emails, letters, and phone calls over the past 11 years. Doug had a passion for his profession and for educating others about his profession. And I became a recipient of that “educating.” Whenever Doug encountered something that would benefit my knowledge, I would hear from him. He has been a treasure to me, and I will miss him greatly. They say time is the greatest gift you can give someone, and that is indeed what Doug gave to me. At a memorial service Saturday, December 12, 2009, in Eugene, many geologists shared stories of Doug as their mentor. I am honored to be one of those mentored by Doug Williamson.

The December Board meeting convened on the campus of Oregon State University. Annually, the Board uses the December date as outreach to university geology programs. The Board was joined for lunch by numerous graduate students and geology professors. Chair Taylor presented information about the Board, its purposes, and the registration requirement for individuals practicing geology in the state with the aid of PowerPoint.

During the December Work Session, Board Chair Taylor entertained a lively discussion about the role of guidelines currently posted on the Board's web page. As a follow-up to that discussion, the Board determined that special time should be set aside to establish the future of the guidelines. A 4-hour retreat has been scheduled for Saturday, February 6, 2010. The Board will review three guidelines. The first guideline developed by the Board early in the 1990s was Guidelines for Preparing Engineering Geologic Reports. With the advent of the practice of hydrogeology, the Board facilitated the development of Hydrogeology Report Guidelines in June 2005. Although not posted on the web page, in March 2008, the draft of a third guideline was completed, titled Oregon Geology Report Guidance. Watch for information about the guidelines following the February retreat.

You are reminded that Board meeting minutes are posted on the web page should you wish more detailed information about Board topics.

As ever,

Susanna Knight
Administrator



State Science Standards

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The newly enacted high school science standards now include the following key Earth Science components: (1) “Describe the structure, function, and composition of Earth’s atmosphere, geosphere, and hydrosphere;” (2) “Identify and predict the effect of energy sources, physical forces, and transfer processes that occur in the Earth system. Describe how matter and energy are cycled between system components over time;” (3) “Explain how Earth’s atmosphere, geosphere, and hydrosphere change over time and at varying rates. Explain techniques used to elucidate the history of events on Earth;” and (4) “Evaluate the impact of human activities on environmental quality and the sustainability of Earth systems. Describe how environmental factors influence resource management.” The language of the last standard was explicitly crafted to reflect the integral importance of the geologic profession to the State of Oregon.

While the above four content standards may seem part of the common knowledge base for well-trained geologists, the previous version of the Earth and Space Science High School standards (2002-2009) were comprised of four very generalized statements concerning the history of natural resource use, global climate, evolution, and Newton's law of universal gravitation. Comparatively, the revised 2009 Earth Science standards represent a quantum leap in the depth and breadth of high school science education in the state of Oregon, rendering them more comparable in scope to the elementary-middle levels.

After numerous meetings of the ODE Panel over the past two years, the K-12 science standards have now been adopted and implemented. Go Team Geology! Thank you! OSBGE registrants are acknowledged for their strong showing and support of this most important process. You can review all the new standards covered in this revision by going to the following web link:
<http://www.ode.state.or.us/teachlearn/real/standards/>

Exam Results Released

The national ASBOG exam results revealed a good pass rate for Oregon candidates. Nineteen candidates sat for the fundamental section of the examination with a 84% pass rate; four candidates sat for the practice section with a 75% pass rate. Congratulations to all those candidates receiving a passing score. Twelve candidates sat for the Engineering Geology exam, six in Washington and six in Oregon. The examination is a joint effort between the Washington and Oregon Geology Boards, and this was by far the largest group ever to sit for the examination. Oregon's pass rate was 50%.

Restoration Fee – Enforcing ORS 672.585 (2)

A restoration fee is required of any registrant when annual renewal payments are postmarked *on* or after the annual renewal date. Per ORS 672.585(2), the annual renewal fee and “application for renewal” shall be filed *before* the expiration date.

During the December renewal period, staff received numerous renewals that paid a \$50.00 restoration fee when the payment was received inside of the 90-day window. If the annual fee is received less than 90 days from the renewal date, the restoration fee is \$25.00. If the annual renewal fee is received after 90 days but before 179 days, the restoration fee is \$50.00. If the fee is later than 180 days, the restoration fee is \$100.00.

During the December renewal cycle, staff was informed by a registrant that requiring the restoration fee is not fair if the payment is posted on the renewal date. But staff must enforce the law and ORS 672.585(2) quite clearly states that the fee must accompany the annual renewal which is due *before* the renewal date.

The staff wishes to thank those of you who include the restoration fee when your annual fee misses the deadline, as your renewal can be processed immediately. Your late payment of annual fees will be delayed if the restoration fee is not included.

Welcome to New Registrants

The Board welcomes the following new registrants and wishes them a safe and successful practice in Oregon.

GIT by Passing Exam: 10/02/2009

Johnson, Christina	T2262	12/11/2009
Kochiss, Christopher	T2263	12/11/2009
McBain, Jason	T2264	12/11/2009
Stevenson, Shawn	T2265	12/11/2010
Whitson, Michael T.	T2268	1/26/2010

RG by Passing the Exam: 10/02/2009

Bowker, Joel	G2261	12/08/2009
Woodcock, Jason	G2218	12/11/2009
Houston, Robert	G2252	01/12/2010

RG By Cooperative Registration:

Gniffke, Jeremy	G2259	10/27/2009
Crump, Timothy.	G2260	11/13/2009
Nanevicz, Thomas	G2266	01/11/2010
Ertel, Dana	G2267	01/12/2010

CEG by Passing Exam: 10/02/2009

Dewey, Michael	E1902	01/05/2010
Jones, Jeffrey	E2235	01/05/2010

Lapsed Registrations

If you failed to submit your annual renewal during October and November, your registration is now *expired*. The following registrants no longer have an active registration. Per ORS 672.525, you may not provide or prepare for the public practice of geology any geologic maps, plans, reports, or geological documents unless you are registered with the Board. If your name appears below, but your renewal was processed and you have a current pocket card, please contact the Board office so corrections can be made to the Board's database. For reinstatement, a signed renewal form along with the annual fee and restoration fee is required.

Jon **Abshier**, G307 (10/31/2009); Terrence **Belunes**, G1467 (10/31/2009); J. Alen **Benfer**, E973 (10/31/2009); Reb **Bennett**, G256 (10/31/2009); Geoffrey **Brown**, G1941 (11/30/2009); Gerald **Cagle**, G2178 (11/30/2009); Gerald **Carr**, G197 (10/31/2009);

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Lapsed Registrations

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William **Dady**, G77 (10/31/2009); John **Demezas**, E83 (10/31/2009); Kathryn **Dominic**, G2042 (11/30/2009); Kenneth **Euge**, E466 (10/31/2009); Saleem **Farooqui**, E22 (10/31/2009); Jonathan **Hamilton**, E1276 (10/31/2009); Harold **Hatfield**, G2102 (11/30/2009); Stephen **Howard**, G1812 (10/31/2009); Dennis **Larson**, E440 (10/31/2009); Jonathan **Lindberg**, G588 (10/31/2009); Alexander **Lopez III**, G2145 (11/30/2009); Richard **Loring**, G533 (10/31/2009); Gary **Manhart**, G2103 (11/30/2009); Vernon **McLean**, G421 (10/31/2009); Kenneth **Nogeire**, T2189 (11/30/2009); Jeffery **Randall**, G855 (10/31/2009); William **Rice**, G549 (10/31/2009); Brian **Richardson**, G2229 (11/30/2009); James **Robinson**, G1892 (10/31/2009); Barry **Sanford**, T2093 (11/30/2009); Allan **Seward**, E438 (10/31/2009); Dennis **Terzian**, G2096 (11/30/2009); Todd **Thornburg**, G1831 (11/30/2009).

2010 Calendar of Upcoming Events

- Feb. 6: Board Retreat, Guideline Discussion
Board Office, 9 AM to 1 PM
- March 4: Quarterly Board Meeting
Salem, Oregon
- March 5: ASBOG Examination
Board Office Building, Salem
- March 5: EG Examination
Board Office Building, Salem
- April 8, 9: ASBOG Council of Examiners
Raleigh, North Carolina
- June 3: Cut-off Date for October ASBOG Exams
- June 11: Quarterly Board Meeting
Salem, Oregon