

GSA Foundation

The Foundation

The Geological Society of America Foundation's mission is to support the programs of the Geological Society of America. The Foundation welcomes contributions from individuals, corporations, foundations, and institutions.

2013–2014 Highlights

In fiscal year 2014, the GSA Foundation received contributions of approximately \$1.25M from individual GSA members and corporations. This makes FY14 one of our most successful years ever. Our success was assured by 4818 separate gifts at all levels—the largest number in the Foundation's 34-year history.

The responsibilities of the Foundation are to (1) support GSA programs and (2) preserve the Foundation's assets for the future. With respect to the first (see chart below), we were able to provide GSA with \$960,000 to support its programs—a record amount. This is a 56% increase in just the past five years. With respect to the second responsibility, the Foundation's assets ended the year at a historic high—more than \$16M as compared with \$14M at the end of FY12 (see the GSA/GSAF Investment Committee report on the portfolio as Foundation funds are managed by the joint GSA/GSA Foundation Investment

Committee). We have recovered from the Great Recession of FY10.

We are pleased that in FY14 we initiated the ExxonMobil Research Awards program that supports ten dissertation grants at the level of \$7500 apiece and additionally supports travel to the GSA Annual Meeting for selected recipients of research awards. Several other research funds have been created to honor several distinguished GSA members. These include:

- The Robert D. Hatcher Research Award for field-based research in the Appalachian orogen
- The John (Jack) W. Hess Research Award for karst studies
- The Lauren A. Wright and Bennie W. Troxel Research Award for research in Death Valley and portions of the Basin and Range Tectonic Province.

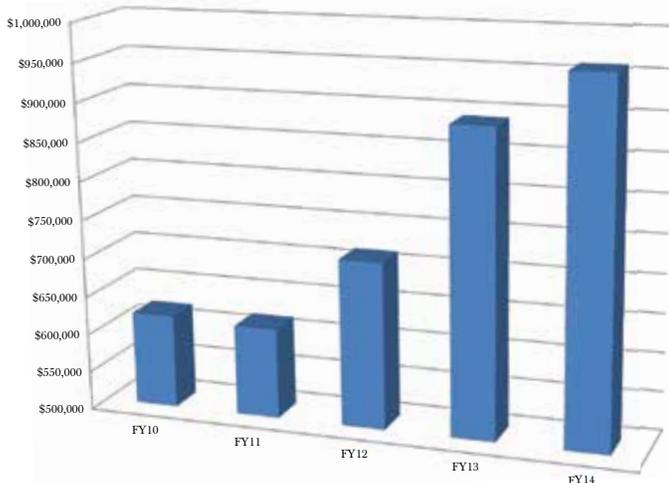
Looking back on the activities of FY14, the Society can take great pride in the initiation of the On To the Future (OTF) Program—a 125th anniversary year challenge to the Society from the GSA Diversity Committee, making it possible for 125 students from underrepresented groups to attend their first-ever annual meeting. Building on the

success of this project at the Denver meeting in October 2013, the Foundation received a very generous three-year grant of \$172,500 from Jeffrey and Paula Gural to provide continuing support for the On To the Future project as a tangible legacy of GSA's 125th anniversary and to assist nontraditional students enrolled at urban/metropolitan universities to attend a GSA Northeastern Section Meeting. The OTF program received in excess of \$70,000 in new support from members, corporate partners, sections, divisions, and associated societies in its inaugural year.

Another legacy of the Society's 125th anniversary was the commissioning and world premiere of *Formations*, a four-movement symphony by composer Jeffrey Nytch of the University of Colorado School of Music (online at www.geosociety.org/125/BPOC.htm). Performed in FY14 by the Boulder Philharmonic (including a performance at the GSA Annual Meeting in Denver) and the Denver Philharmonic, future performances are now being scheduled. This project was funded by a grant from ExxonMobil to the Foundation.

The Foundation is pleased to announce the election of two new Trustees to serve on its board for the next five years. They are: **Barbara Dutrow**, Adolphe G. Gueymard

Foundation Support of GSA



Professor of Geology in the Department of Geology and Geophysics at Louisiana State University, and **Jeffery Oslund**, recently retired Manager of Geoscience Career Development and Recruiting, Anadarko Petroleum Corp., Houston, Texas.

The Future

As we have in the past, the Foundation will host its Silent Auction, Senior Fellows Reception, Pardee Coterie breakfast for those who include the Foundation in their estate plans, and Penrose donor lounge for Penrose Circle level (\$500/a) contributors at the Annual Meeting in Vancouver. We hope you can join us there.

Finally, this is my last opportunity to report on the work of the Foundation as its president as I retire effective 31 December 2014. It has been an honor and a joy to help raise critical resources to support the vast array of important programs at GSA. I have been endlessly impressed over the past four-and-a-half years with the commitment of GSA and Foundation professional staff; the magnificent generosity of GSA members in terms of their gifts of time, expertise, and monetary resources to both the Society and the Foundation; and the critical attention paid by all to achieving the priorities determined by GSA Council for the betterment of our profession. I am also pleased that Jack Hess, retiring executive director of GSA, has consented to assume the leadership of the Foundation at this critical time in the Society's history. No one could be better suited to this task.

The work of the Foundation on behalf of the Society and its members is ongoing and grows in importance each year. I encourage every member to avail themselves of the opportunity to serve GSA and to support the Foundation in their combined efforts to ensure the dynamism and strength of the geosciences. I certainly intend to continue to do so post-retirement.

P. Geoffrey Feiss, *GSA Foundation President*



The GSA International Lecture Tour is made possible through a gift to the GSA Foundation and is organized under the guidance of GSA's International Section. Chan's lectureship is cosponsored with generous support from the University of Utah.



Symphony No. 1: FORMATIONS
 Jeffrey Nytech • Composer

125th ANNIVERSARY GALA
 YOU ARE INVITED TO AN EVENING OF CELEBRATION
 IN HONOR OF THE GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA'S
 125TH ANNIVERSARY.

TUESDAY, 29 OCTOBER

HISTORY COLORADO CENTER • 1200 BROADWAY, DENVER
 BLACK-TIE OR VICTORIAN DRESS
 COST: US\$125 PER PERSON

6:30 P.M. COCKTAIL, RECEPTION AND VIEWING OF EXHIBITS

7:30 P.M. BOULDER PHILHARMONIC PERFORMANCE
 OF SYMPHONY NO. 1, FORMATIONS
 8 P.M. DINNER AND PROGRAM

**SPACE IS LIMITED, SO PLEASE RESERVE YOUR SPOT
 WHEN YOU REGISTER FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING.**

**TABLE SPONSORSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE—FOR MORE INFORMATION,
 PLEASE CONTACT DEBBIE MARCINKOWSKI AT
 DMARCINKOWSKI@GSA-SOCIETY.ORG
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QUESTIONS? PLEASE CONTACT MEETINGS@GSA-SOCIETY.ORG.

