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GSA TODAY

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GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA
FOUNDATION

Greatest Needs and Greatest Possibilities:

How the Greatest Needs Fund Fuels the Future

"GSA has always had a strong foundation in geological mapping, the foundation of geology, and I see that GSA is going to continue that into the future. I donate to the Greatest Needs Fund because I trust GSA and the GSA Foundation to use these resources wisely for this and other priorities."

—Virginia "Ginger" McLemore, Lead Research Scientist (Economic Geologist), New Mexico Bureau of Geology & Mineral Resources and New Mexico Institute of Mining & Technology



Figure 1. Ginger McLemore at the GSA Foundation's Death Valley Rendezvous, Spring 2026.



Figure 2. Martin Farley.

As a member of our community, you understand the earth sciences and why they matter. You know why the expertise of GSA and its members is vital to meeting the energy, mineral, water, climate, and hazard preparation demands of our time. As part of GSA, you see how the Society empowers geoscientists to work together for a sustainable, abundant future. You have unique insights into the greatest needs of your field and our planet.

This understanding is not universal, but we believe it can be. We can help the general public and decisionmakers understand the necessity of geoscience expertise. At the same time, we can reinforce our capacity to support each other and your work. In a time of slashed STEM funding and rampant misinformation, your voice—and your gifts—make a bigger difference to GSA and the geosciences than ever before.

Sometimes, our greatest need is to sustain GSA traditions that promote excellence. Thanks in part to Greatest Needs Fund donations, GSA and the GSA Foundation were able to shore up the On To the Future® program when its federal funding was slashed in 2025. On To the Future® enables students to attend GSA events, share their work, and connect with mentors. Such continuity and belonging are vital to GSA's mission.

Greatest Needs gifts have also helped GSA continue to make its priorities heard by lawmakers through the Congressional Science Fellowship program. GSA Fellows work hand-in-hand with legislators to illuminate the connection between geosciences and the most pressing challenges of our time, such as responsible mineral sourcing, clean and abundant groundwater access, and disaster preparation and response.

But the future is uncertain. New frontiers are certain to emerge. Your gifts to the Greatest Needs Fund ensure GSA can address them.

Of course, you can donate to the Greatest Needs Fund while continuing to give in your discipline or field of interest. Martin Farley, chair and professor of geology and geography at the University of North Carolina Pembroke notes, "I mostly give to grant programs, but GSA is doing a lot of other important things for the field that I may not be aware of. I donate to the Greatest Needs Fund because I want to support them too."

We are honored by the trust of Ginger and Martin—and you. We hope that GSA's work—its science, its voice, and its impact—motivates you to contribute to GSA's Greatest Needs Fund. Your generosity makes a difference.

Visit https://gsa-foundation.org/fund/greatest-needs-of-gsa/ to give today, or scan the QR Code.

Questions? Contact GSA Foundation Executive Director Sean O'Brien, sean.obrien@gsa-foundation.org. We are grateful you are part of our community and our future.

Gifts to the GSA Foundation are fully tax-deductible under U.S. law.

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