



THE AEG INSIDER

April 2013 AGI highlights

- **AGI's Geoscience Policy Program, in coordination with the Association of Environmental and Engineering Geologists (AEG), the Association of American State Geologists (AASG), and the National Cave and Karst Research Institute (NCKRI) held a briefing on sinkholes on April 15.** The briefing, *The Science of Sinkholes: Living and Building in Karst Areas*, included testimony from David Weary, a Research Geologist at the USGS in Reston; Jonathan Arthur, the State Geologist of Florida at the Florida Geological Survey; and Mike Knight, the Chief Geologist and Vice President of the Quantum Geophysics Division of Gannett Fleming, Inc. Daniel Doctor, a Research Geologist at USGS in Reston, moderated. For information, or to collaborate on future briefings, please contact Maeve Boland (mboland@agiweb.org).
- **The [Geoscience Policy Advisory Committee](#) met this April to go over AGI's geoscience policy initiatives and activities, and to discuss the new Critical Issues Program.** Representatives from AGI member societies, including [ARMA](#), [AGU](#), [GSA](#), [AESE](#), [IAH](#), [SSSA](#), [NAGT](#), [AEG](#), [TSOP](#), [AASG](#), and [AIPG](#) participated, as well as representatives from USGS. Updates to [social media](#), [GEO-CVD](#), the Leadership Forum, and the AGI [Sequester Survey](#) were all discussed. For more information please contact Maeve Boland (mboland@agiweb.org).
- **The AGI Outreach Department is preparing for a new Earth Science Week contest for National Fossil Day.** The new contest is the National Park Service's National Fossil Day Art and Photography Contest. Entries should address the theme "Your Nomination for Our National Fossil." The contest will kick off a nationwide election to determine what fossil might best represent the United States as our "National Fossil." Six top candidate fossils will be selected from 2013 contest submissions and announced on National Fossil Day October 16, 2013. For more information please visit http://nature.nps.gov/geology/nationalfossilday/art_contest.cfm or contact National_Fossil_Day@nps.gov.
- **The Association of American Geographers (AAG) held their [annual meeting](#) in Los Angeles, CA this April.** AGI staff from the Workforce Program participated in 4 career panels, including a AGI/AAG coordinated panel on terminal master's degree programs in geography and geology through NSF grant #GEO-1202707, and a panel on better integrating careers awareness in geography curriculum to help students transition smoothly into the workforce. For more information please contact Carolyn Wilson (cwilson@agiweb.org) or Heather Houlton (hrh@agiweb.org).
- **The [GeoRef Advisory Committee](#) met at AGI Headquarters on Friday, April 19.** The group discussed the future growth of meeting abstracts available through GeoRef, and how many GeoRef [subsets](#) are available. GeoRef will soon have an updated search function to improve functionality. For more information please contact Sharon Tahirkheli (snt@agiweb.org).

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