November Meeting Details
Tuesday, November 5th

Location: Mercato Ristorante
111 Market St NE
Olympia, WA

6:00 pm Social
7:00 Presentation
Dinner: Pizza and Salad
$25 Member or Non-Member
$15 Educators or Job Seekers
$5 Student

Please RSVP by 4 pm Friday, Nov. 1st at:
https://aeg-nisqually.brownpapertickets.com

November Micro-talks

“Identifying Hidden Stratigraphic Changes Based on Water Level Data at Hawks Prairie”
Speaker: Kevin Hansen

Evaluating hidden stratigraphic changes is particularly difficult in terrain that has been heavily reworked by multiple glaciations. Sparse and irregularly-located borehole data make conceptual modeling very difficult. Additional insights from water levels can add important information to the hydrostratigraphic portion of the conceptual model. High recharge by Class A reclaimed water in the Hawks Prairie district of northern Thurston County created water level distortions that were troublingly difficult to interpret. Alternative hydrostratigraphic models tested using MODFLOW modeling showed promise for improving understanding. Ongoing work will be presented.

“Overview of volcanic hazards in the Pacific Northwest—hazards assessments and volcano monitoring”
Speaker: Pat Pringle

Pat will review the major volcanic processes hazards we face in the Pacific Northwest and show how assessments (reports and hazards maps) lead to forecasts (longer term) and how monitoring of volcanoes can lead to predictions (short term).

“Carbon Utilization and Storage Partnership (CUSP) for the Western USA: Project Kickoff”
Speaker: Will Gallin

The Washington Geological Survey (WGS) is part of the successful application by 13 western states for $5 million from the U. S. Department of Energy, funding a regional initiative for carbon capture, utilization, and storage. With a project kickoff in November 2019, WGS will collaborate in a three-year partnership composed of state geological surveys, universities, and national laboratories (principal investigator Dr. Robert Balch of New Mexico Tech). WGS will provide the partnership with data on suitable storage reservoirs in Washington State by compiling and refining past reservoir mapping and improving reservoir property reporting through well log analysis. Storage potential includes conventional oil and gas traps, fractured coal beds, and saline aquifers. Deliverables include subsurface isopach maps and reservoir quality maps (porosity, permeability, and overpressure, if possible). WGS will participate in the larger interdisciplinary project to integrate these geological data with CO2 point-source locations, pipeline transportation networks, plume modeling and seal risk assessments, and economic, regulatory, and policy risk assessments. The final model will identify the optimal sites for carbon capture, utilization, and storage commercialization in the mid-2020s. This AEG talk provides a brief overview of the CUSP project at its incipient stage.
Bio: Kevin Hansen

Kevin is Thurston County's hydrogeologist, working on a broad array of investigations and policy related to water availability, streamflow, water quality, and land use. With 37 years' experience, he has worked on hundreds of projects, holds professional licenses in three states and has several professional certificates. He is also a documentary filmmaker and holds one U.S. patent.

Bio: Pat Pringle

Patrick Pringle is Professor Emeritus of Earth Sciences at Centralia College, Washington. He taught at Centralia College from 2005–2017 and was a Research Geologist at DNR's Washington Geological Survey from 1990–2005 and at the US Geological Survey Cascades Volcano Observatory from 1982–1990. Pat studies volcanoes, earthquakes, landslides, and debris flows using radiocarbon and tree-ring analysis to establish the history of past geologic events. He is the author of books on the roadside geology of Mounts St. Helens and Rainier as well as many published papers and reports; the Mount Rainier book won the Geoscience Information Society’s “Best Guidebook Award” for 2009, presented at the Geological Society of America’s Annual Meeting that year. He has won several teaching awards including 2016 Faculty of the Year from the Washington Association of College Trustees.

Bio: Will Gallin

Will Gallin has been a landslide hazards geologist with WGS since August 2017. Prior to WGS, he worked for over seven years in the oil industry including Hess Corporation in Houston, TX; ConocoPhillips in Midland, TX; Energy and Geoscience Institute in Salt Lake City, UT. He has an MS from the University of Utah (2010) and a BA from Carleton College (2005). He has also worked at the Department of Ecology in Lacey and the Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge in New Mexico. Besides landslide hazards, his geology interests are sedimentology and stratigraphy, ichnology, and salt tectonics.
Message from the Chair

Lower costs for the unemployed and educators
AEG meetings are a great place to network and find employment in the profession. We would like to encourage this by providing reduced rates for those looking work. Instead of the typical $25 dinner cost, we are reducing it $15 to cover the chapter’s cost for dinner.

To encourage more faculty to attend our meetings, we are also reducing the cost of dinner to $15. We hope that by encouraging more faculty to attend, students will follow suit.

Next Meeting Nov 5th—Micro-talks
We are all looking forward to the next meeting where we’ll have three great presentations instead of one. Previously billed at Microbrews and Micro-talks, we’re changing the title to Micro-talks for two reasons. We are no longer having meetings at the local brewery and to be more inclusive, we’re reducing the focus on alcohol at the meetings.

Jahns Lecture
We’re working with the Puget Sound Chapter to arrange a visit by this year’s Jahns Lecturer, Scott Lindvall. We’re looking into hosting a joint meeting in Tacoma possibly in March. Stay tuned.

Field Trip
The fossil collecting field trip was postponed because of forecasted bad weather this past weekend. You might get another chance to go fossil collecting with Cat Samson this coming weekend Saturday Oct 26th. Email her if you would like to go. Cat.Samson@dnr.wa.gov

Speakers
We’re still crowdsourcing speakers. Let me know if you have nominations for speakers for the March 3rd and April 7th meeting. We’re entertaining the idea of splitting the bill and having two or three talks at any of these meetings.

Winter Break
The November meeting will be our last until February. The February 4th meeting will showcase Tom Badger’s recent work on slope stability related to pre-Vashon glacial sediment in the Puget Lowland. Hope to see you before then. If not, have a great holiday season.

Rock on,
Trevor
trevor.contreas@dnr.wa.gov
Section Officers & Committee Chairs

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The AEG Nisqually Chapter Newsletter

The Association of Engineering Geologists (AEG) contributes to its members' professional success and the public welfare by providing leadership, advocacy, and applied research in environmental and engineering geology. AEG's values are based on the belief that its members have a responsibility to assume stewardship over their fields of expertise. AEG is the acknowledged international leader in environmental and engineering geology, and is greatly respected for its stewardship of the profession.

AEG NISQUALLY CHAPTER NEWSLETTER is published monthly from September through April. Subscriptions are for members of AEG affiliated with the Nisqually Chapter or other Chapters, and other interested people. E-mail subscriptions are free.

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