

## Latest newsletter

1 message

NYSCPG <Nyscp@gmail.com>  
Reply-To: Michael Rygel <michael.rygel@gmail.com>  
To: Michael Rygel <michael.rygel@gmail.com>

Wed, Nov 1, 2017 at 1:11 PM



## President's Message

It is an exciting time of the year for NYSCPG as we make preparations for several upcoming events, elect our leadership for the coming year, and get ready for several legislative issues.

### *NE-AIPG/NYSCPG/CNYAPG Joint Fall Meeting*

We hope that you will join us on Wednesday October 18<sup>th</sup> for the NE-AIPG/NYSCPG/CNYAPG Joint Fall Meeting in Syracuse. The meeting will include field demonstrations, networking opportunities, and an evening presentation by Dr. Lee Slater (Rutgers University) entitled "*Electrical Imaging; An Evolving Geophysical Technology for Characterization and Monitoring of Complex Contaminated Sites*"

A promotional flyer with an agenda and more details is available for download [here](#). Please feel free to share it with your colleagues. You can register for the event at the [NE-AIPG website](#). Discounted early registration ends September 30<sup>th</sup>.

### *NYSCPG Elections*

The 2017/2018 election of officers and directors is underway. If you have not already done so, please use the link emailed to you on Sept. 14<sup>th</sup> to cast your ballot. If you prefer to use a paper ballot, you can download a digital version of the ballot [here](#) and send it via email or USPS to Marcia Wolosz (NYSCPG Secretary; contact info provided on the mail-in ballot) for receipt by October 6<sup>th</sup>. Only one vote per member is permitted. Results will be announced at the annual meeting on October 18<sup>th</sup>.

### *Legislative Issues*

As always, I encourage you to read the entirety of the newsletter. John Nadeau's Legislative Update section reviews critical information regarding the upcoming deadlines for grandparent applications (November 20, 2017) and corporate restructuring (March 1, 2018).

I am also pleased to report that last September, the NYSCPG Legislative Committee prepared a list of comments to NYSDEC regarding proposed changes to New York State's Solid Waste Management Facilities Regulations, 6 NYCRR Part 360 which sets the standards for solid waste management facilities. In particular, our comments were intended to make sure that the regulations reflected the licensure law and that our profession was properly represented in the General Requirements (Section 360) and Hydrogeologic Investigation Requirements (Subpart 363-7) sections. I am pleased to report that our comments were well received and addressed by NYSDEC. A summary of the proposed revisions can be found on the [DEC website](#); the response to our comments can be found in the [Initial Assessment of Public Comments report](#).

I hope to see you in Syracuse on October 18<sup>th</sup>!

Regards,

Michael C. Rygel

2016/2017 NYSCPG President

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### **Statement of Purpose**

The NYSCPG strives to strengthen and advance the geologic sciences as a profession, promote the protection of public health and welfare and the environment through the professional practice of geologic sciences, and create high standards of ethical conduct among its members and within the profession of geology, as well as the legal standing of geologists and their ability to practice geology in New York State by promoting the licensing of geologists in New York State through statutory regulation.



## Legislative Update: Critical Dates and Professional Entities

With less than three months left until the grand-parenting provision closes, approximately 350 geologists currently are licensed in New York State. Many people have questions on professional conduct. Licensed professionals are subject to discipline and the Office of Professional Discipline (OPD) is the entity that investigates complaints. You should familiarize yourself with New York's Professional Misconduct Enforcement System which can be viewed on-line at <http://www.op.nysed.gov/opd/>.

Please remember that the deadline for licensure applications under the grand-parenting provision must be post-marked by November 20, 2017. This post-mark deadline includes ALL forms that are submitted to SED in support of your application, including transcripts, license verifications, and endorsements. It is the applicant's responsibility to communicate with your schools and endorsers to allow sufficient time. People have asked if their application is incomplete or deficient, whether they will be allowed to make corrections after the November 20 deadline. It's possible that a minor administrative issue such as correcting a date may be allowed; however, everyone should assume that they will NOT have an opportunity to augment or correct information after November 20th. This should be a deterrent for people to send in incomplete forms just to meet the deadline. After November 20<sup>th</sup>, the grand-parenting window is closed and you must pass the ASBOG exam to obtain licensure.

All corporations desiring to provide geological services in New York must have licensed PGs and have completed their articles of incorporation prior to the enforcement date of March 1, 2018, for persons and companies. After that date, no one can legally offer geologic services in New York State without the proper credentials. This process can take several months to complete, so business owners should begin this process sooner than later.

Remember to review the acceptable corporate structures for practicing professional services in New York State. There are multiple options for your company to choose from and each structure has specific requirements; therefore, the Council highly recommends that you consult legal and/or tax professionals for specific advice to evaluate your individual practice or your company's options. Information regarding the different corporate structures can be found at <http://www.op.nysed.gov/corp/>.

As your company begins to reestablish itself as a professional corporation of some designation, you will need to review the differing aspects of what your business offers and whether those services fall under the purview of professional services. Services that an existing "general" corporation or firm currently offers may have to be curtailed or re-established under a separate entity outside the professional corporation. Your company may still be able to perform "related" services for internal support of your own clients, but you may not be able to sell the same services to others going forward. We all need to educate ourselves regarding the different structures of professional practice and what services each of those structures allows. A general rule of thumb would be to compare with our sister design professionals what your entity intends to offer and how those related services are offered by other professions.

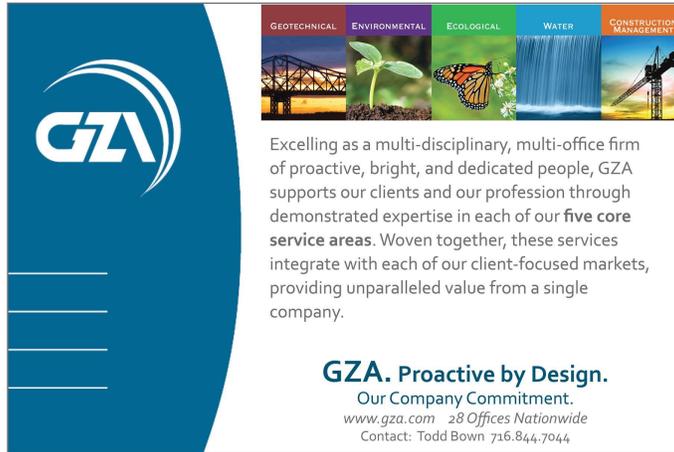
I continue to share this important reminder: geologists need to be cognizant when licensed in other states not to refer to themselves a Professional Geologist in NY until they obtain their New York State license. Now that licensing law is effective in New York, it is illegal to call oneself a PG in this state without the proper credentials. If your business card lists you as a PG, you must be licensed in the jurisdiction of the

address of your business. If you currently are licensed in another state, you can refer to yourself as a PG only if you display the qualifying state, e.g. PG (any state).

Thank you for your continued support. If you have questions or do not understand a provision you can contact me at [jnadeau@alphageoscience.com](mailto:jnadeau@alphageoscience.com) or submit a question and we will reply or research the question if necessary. As always, you can contact NYSED directly at [geology@nysed.gov](mailto:geology@nysed.gov) with any questions or concerns.



John M. Nadeau, CPG  
2016-2017  
Legislative/Transition Chairman  
NYSCPG Past President



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## Geoscience News

### *Dr. James Dawson retires after distinguished 47-year career.*

Dr. James C. Dawson, PhD, LPG, announced his retirement effective September 1, 2017 as a Distinguished Service Professor from SUNY-Plattsburgh. In the years since his arrival at the college in 1970, Jim, as he is known to everyone, can look back on many successful and rewarding ventures. Starting his career as a geology professor, he quickly branched out into the realms of research, environmental science program development, public policy, advocacy, administration, conference organizer, and community service. Dr. Dawson's tireless efforts were a key component of achieving licensure for geologists in New York State; as a NYS Board of Regents appointee from 1993 to 2015, he never stopped arguing for the passage of legislation to establish geology as one of the slightly over fifty licensed New York professions. When the granting of licenses actually began, the Council believed that, due to his tireless efforts on behalf of NYSCPG, the most deserving recipient of license #00001 should be Dr. James Dawson—and it was!

Everyone connected with NYSCPG would like to take this opportunity to thank you, Jim, for all that you have done to advance the disciplines of geology and environmental science. We wish you only the best of luck as you embark on the next step of your amazing journey, knowing that you will keep up the good work.

### *Remembering Dr. Bruce Selleck*

Dr. Bruce Selleck, Thomas A. Bartlett Chair and Professor of Geology at Colgate University, passed unexpectedly on July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017. Dr. Selleck earned a B.A. in Geology from Colgate and went on to earn M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Rochester before returning to Colgate as a faculty member in 1974. He was a well known expert on the geology of New York and actively shared his knowledge through field trips and publications. He received numerous awards for his teaching and took on numerous leadership roles within the university. Dr. Selleck's obituary is available [here](#) and a fuller tribute to his career is available through a [news release](#) and [newspaper article](#) available on the Colgate University website. A memorial service is being planned for October 14<sup>th</sup> and details will be available via the university website.

### *U.S. Department of Labor Survey*

The U.S. Department of Labor is conducting a survey of geoscientists to ask them about their tasks and knowledge required for their occupation. The information will be used to populate the O\*NET Online Database and may help raise awareness of our profession. The survey can be accessed here: <http://gsoa.informz.net/z/cjUucD9taT02ODA3MzM4JnA9MSZ1PTEwNTcxNDc1NDgmbGk9NDYyNzlwOTQ/index.html>



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## Membership Committee Report

Thank you to all who have taken advantage of renewing your membership in 2017. Please be sure to continue to review the material provided to you in the newsletter and email notifications. I welcome each member to please extend an invite to the Council to a fellow work associate and/or friend and let's continue to grow our membership base. The influence of our council in the geoscience professional is reflected by the size of our membership and our input in the community is more important now than ever!

Membership renewal or new membership is now even easier to complete by using the NYSCPG's website at <https://nyscp.org/wildapricot.org>.

If you are interested in becoming a more active member with the NYSCPG, please consider volunteering your time to assist with the Membership Committee or one of our other committees, it is a rewarding experience! Please contact Marc Flanagan ([MEFlanagan@trcsolutions.com](mailto:MEFlanagan@trcsolutions.com)) for more details.



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## Outreach Committee Report

Well now that our summer hiatus is over, members of the committee will be going "Back to the Schools".

Members will be meeting with colleges/ universities, which offer a program in the field of geology, to inform them about NYSCPG, ASBOG and our October 18<sup>th</sup> Joint

Meeting.

I am happy to report that SUNY Binghamton, Oswego and Potsdam are planning on having student participation at this years' Joint Meeting being held in Syracuse on October 18<sup>th</sup>.

All OC members reaching out to the institutions of learning will have the same power point presentation.

Most recently I was asked if we could possibly offer this to Boy Scouts and High School programs.

We have our work cut out for us! As always, the committee can certainly utilize more members to reach out to the public.

Please contact anyone of the following to let us know your intent:

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	Scott Yanuck	<a href="mailto:syanuck@laurelenv.com">syanuck@laurelenv.com</a>
<b>Region III</b>	Patrick Diggins	<a href="mailto:geodiggins@gmail.com">geodiggins@gmail.com</a>
	David Hannam	<a href="mailto:dhannam@langan.com">dhannam@langan.com</a>
<b>Region IV &amp; V</b>	Marcia Wolosz	<a href="mailto:darcyslaw@gmail.com">darcyslaw@gmail.com</a>
<b>Region VI</b>	Scott McDonald	<a href="mailto:SMcDonald@gesonline.com">SMcDonald@gesonline.com</a>
<b>Region VII</b>	Marty Meriwether	<a href="mailto:martinm@pwgrosner.com">martinm@pwgrosner.com</a>
<b>Region VIII &amp; IX</b>	Gene Florentino	<a href="mailto:GFlorentino@ene.com">GFlorentino@ene.com</a>

The committee has been set-up to simulate the NYSDEC as far as regions of the state are involved. For each DEC region, we have a "lead" person. If you are interests in being on the committee, please contact the lead in your region.

We meet via in-person and through a conference call the third Wednesday of each month.

Also, the OC will be involved with a joint meeting to be held in the Spring of 2018 in the Albany area. More information will follow in later newsletters about the Spring Symposium.

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