

ATLANTIC UNIVERSITIES GEOSCIENCE CONFERENCE (AUGC) CONSTITUTION  
as amended October 29, 2016

ARTICLE I:

Name: Atlantic Universities Geoscience Conference

ARTICLE II:

Purpose of the Conference:

- (1) To meet geoscience students from other universities in the Atlantic Provinces.
- (2) To stimulate interest in the geological sciences and associated fields.
- (3) To provide an opportunity for undergraduate students to present papers.

ARTICLE III:

Members:

Acadia University	The Fletcher Geology Club, Wolfville, NS
Memorial University	The Alexander Murray Geological Club, St. John's, NL
Dalhousie University	The Dawson Geology Club, Halifax, NS
St. Francis Xavier University	The Faribault Geological Society, Antigonish NS
University of New Brunswick	The Bailey Geological Society, Fredericton, NB
St. Mary's University	The D. Hope-Simpson Geology Club, Halifax, NS

Any geoscience society affiliated with a university in the Atlantic Provinces may become a member of the Conference provided that it accepts the responsibility of holding the Conference when designated as host. *The following conditions apply.* Your society may remain a member of the Conference up to the year it fails to host. In this event, your society should inform the next hosting society of this decision (at least one year before your society's year to host) such that necessary preparations can be made. Students may attend conferences at their own expense even if their society fails to host. If there is a student speaker whose society is not part of the Conference, funds should be provided for that student if possible.

ARTICLE IV:

Place:

- (1) The host of the Conference shall be decided at the Executive Meeting each year but following the rotation method if possible.
- (2) The rotation system will be used in Article III and the position of any new members shall be decided at the Executive Meeting of the year in which they are accepted into the Conference.

ARTICLE V:

Responsibilities of the Societies:

- (1) The host society will sponsor six delegates from Memorial University and three delegates from mainland universities.
- (2) The host society will be responsible for subsidizing meals, accommodations, and transportation for the sponsored delegates to and from the Conference. However this will depend on the financial condition of the host society.
- (3) Hosting mainland societies will be responsible for transportation to the conference of six designated delegates from Memorial University. In its turn, Memorial University will be

responsible for transportation to the Conference of three designated delegates from each mainland society. Also each mainland society will sponsor three additional delegates from among its members to the Conference when hosted by Memorial University.

- (4) All participating societies must provide the host society with the names of its designated delegates at least ten days before the Conference or the host society will be relieved of all obligations to that society.
- (5) Each individual society shall be responsible for damage occurred at the conference by members of the society.

#### ARTICLE VI:

##### Papers:

- (1) AUGC presentations include both oral papers and posters dealing with some aspect of earth sciences. Oral presentations normally have a time limit of twenty minutes and a question period of ten minutes.
- (2) Abstracts must be prepared for both oral and poster presentations.
- (3) If the host society receives a copy of an abstract at least ten days prior to the conference, the host society will be responsible for duplication and distribution of the abstract. Otherwise, that responsibility lies with the society sponsoring the paper.
- (4) The order of oral paper presentations shall be determined by chance. The lottery will be performed by the host society prior to the conference.
- (5) Prizes and awards are normally provided for oral and poster presentations by external organizations according to criteria established by those organizations (see Appendix A).
- (6) Students who present oral papers or posters at AUGC must be currently enrolled in an undergraduate geoscience program.
- (7) Judging of oral and poster presentations will be done by an impartial panel of at least three professional members of the geoscience community arranged by the host society with input from faculty and Science Atlantic/CSPG/CSEG or similar organization.

#### ARTICLE VII:

##### Time:

The time of the Conference shall be no later than November 15th and the clubs shall be notified of the date at least one month in advance, in writing.

#### ARTICLE VIII:

##### Executive Meeting:

- (1) The host society shall appoint the chairperson, secretary and treasurer for the Conference, to preside over the executive meeting.
- (2) The treasurer shall be responsible for a financial report on the conference.
- (3) The secretary shall be responsible for a report on the conference.
- (4) The reports (2) and (3) must be forwarded to all societies by the 1st of February after the Conference.
- (5) At the executive meeting, each club will have three votes. All motions must be passed by a two-thirds majority of those present.

#### ARTICLE IX:

##### Attendance:

- (1) Attendance will be open to all interested parties; however, the host society shall only be financially responsible for designated delegates of a member club.
- (2) A minimum of ten days' notice will be given for members attending from each society or club.

#### ARTICLE X:

##### Finance:

In the event of a money surplus arising from the Conference, the host society shall pass it along to the next year's host via the Science Atlantic holding account. If, however, a deficit is incurred by the host, this will be its responsibility and is *not* to be passed along to next year's host society.

#### ARTICLE XI:

##### Amendments:

Amendments of this constitution shall be made only at conference executive meetings at which an eighty percent majority of votes by member clubs who are represented at the conference shall be necessary to amend the Constitution.

**Appendix A: Awards and prizes presented at AUGC**  
**(as revised November 2016 with input and approval from award sponsors)**

**Judging**

Oral and poster presentations at AUGC are evaluated by a panel of at least 3 qualified judges with diverse geoscience expertise. In consultation with the award sponsors (as described below), the AUGC student organizers are responsible for assembling the panel of judges. At least four weeks before the date of the conference, the student organizers should contact the Science Atlantic Earth Science Committee and ask that they suggest at least one appropriate and available judge. Similarly, the student organizers should contact Imperial Oil, CSPG, CSEG, and the Mining Society of Nova Scotia to invite them to send representatives to the conference. If such representatives are present at the conference, they may take the lead in judging the awards of those organizations. Professors at the host university can also be asked by the student organizers for advice in assembling the judging panel.

Note: In all cases where plaques are awarded, the winner's department is responsible for ensuring that the plaque is suitably engraved and that it is returned to the AUGC in the subsequent year so that it is available to be given to the next recipient.

Normally the awards are presented by representatives of the award sponsors at the closing banquet of the conference.

**Science Atlantic Best Paper Award**

**The Science Atlantic Presentation and Communication Award** is given for the best overall student paper on any geoscience topic presented orally at the annual AUGC (Atlantic Universities Geoscience Conference).

**Judging**

The award is judged primarily on the basis of the scientific quality of the topic, the amount of original work done by the student, and his/her understanding of the subject.

Evaluation criteria include:

Abstract – Clear statement of problem, objectives, principal findings;

Presentation – Clarity, visual aids, organization;

Scientific merit – Experimental design, innovative approach, and interpretation of data;

Understanding - Overall knowledge and response to questions.

The award will be judged by a panel of at least 3 qualified judges with diverse geoscience expertise as described under judging above.

**The Award**

The award consists of a monetary prize (\$500 in 2015) and letter of commendation for the presenter, as well as a plaque which resides at the winner's university for one year, after which the winner's university is responsible for bringing the plaque to the next annual conference. The award is usually presented by a representative of the Science Atlantic Earth Science Committee at the annual banquet of the AUGC.

**Sponsor Information**

This award (previously known from 2004-2012 as the APICS-NSERC Award) is the AUGC version of the Science Atlantic [Undergraduate Research Award](#) and [Communication Award](#)

offered at all Science Atlantic-sponsored conferences. The Communication part of the award is sponsored by Canadian Science Publishing. A separate Communication Award is not offered at AUGC.

### **Imperial Oil Best Poster Award**

**The Imperial Oil Best Poster Award** is given to the student presenting the best overall student poster on any topic at the annual AUGC.

#### **Judging**

The award is judged primarily on the basis of the scientific quality of the topic, the amount of original work done by the student, and his/her understanding of the subject.

Evaluation criteria include:

Abstract – Clear statement of problem, objectives, principal findings;

Poster design – Clarity, organization, visual appeal;

Scientific merit – Experimental design, innovative approach, and interpretation of data;

Understanding - Overall knowledge and response to questions.

The award will be judged by a panel of at least 3 qualified judges with diverse geoscience expertise as described under judging above. When a representative of Imperial Oil is present, he/she will take the lead in judging this award.

#### **The Award**

The award consists of a monetary prize for the student presenter.

#### **Sponsor Information**

This award has been sponsored by [Imperial Oil](#) since 2007. Imperial Oil recognizes that business success depends on the economic, social and environmental health of the communities where they operate and views community investment not simply as a responsibility but as an essential component in building a strong society. Imperial Oil gives back to local communities through financial contributions, in-kind donations and volunteer efforts and supports scientific research with a number of awards and sponsorship.

### **Canadian Society of Petroleum Geologists (CSPG) Award**

**The Canadian Society of Petroleum Geologists Award** is awarded annually for the best presentation of a petroleum geology-related paper at the annual AUGC. If the winner of the Science Atlantic Best Paper Award gave a petroleum geology-based presentation, then the CSPG award will go to the petroleum geology-based paper judged to be next best.

#### **Judging**

The award will be judged by a panel of at least 3 qualified judges with diverse geoscience expertise as described under judging above. When a CSPG representative is present, he/she will take the lead in judging for the award.

#### **The Award**

A plaque is presented to the winner at the AUGC banquet as well as a monetary prize (\$500 in 2015), preferably by a CSPG member or representative. The plaque will reside at the winner's university until the next AUGC, when the winner's university is responsible for bringing the plaque to the next conference.

### **Sponsor Information**

This award is sponsored by the [Canadian Society of Petroleum Geologists](#). Founded in 1927, the mission of the Society is to advance the professions of the energy geosciences – as it applies to geology; foster the scientific, technical learning and professional development of its members; and promote the awareness of the profession to industry and the public.

### **Canadian Society of Exploration Geophysicists (CSEG) Award**

**The Canadian Society of Exploration Geophysicists Award** was established in 2008. The award is given to the student who presents the best overall geophysics paper at the AUGC conference (typically awarded for an oral presentation; however, poster presentations are also eligible). Geophysics is a diverse discipline with many different areas of study, and this award could be awarded to any student whose work falls under this broad category.

### **Judging**

Students will be evaluated on the scientific merit of their work, their general understanding of the material covered and their ability to effectively communicate this to the judges. This award will be judged by the panel of judges chosen by the conference organizers. Ideally one of these judges should have a geophysics background. The CSEG will typically send representatives to attend the conference so if a geophysics judge cannot be found locally then one of these representatives may be asked to judge. The award may not be presented if the judges and the CSEG representatives determine that no presentation fulfills the spirit of the award.

### **The Award**

The award consists of a monetary prize (\$500 in 2015) for the student presenter, as well as a plaque which resides at the winner's university for one year, after which the winner's university is responsible for bringing the plaque to the next annual conference. The award is usually presented by a CSEG representative at the annual banquet of the AUGC. The monetary prize of \$500 comes from the funds (\$4,500 in 2015) that the CSEG commits to the conference. It is a responsibility of the school that hosts the conference to prepare and distribute a cheque for the winning presenter.

### **Sponsor Information**

The [Canadian Society of Exploration Geophysicists](#) began in 1949 at around the time of the petroleum production boom of the Leduc and Redwater discoveries. As a result of these significant discoveries, there was a need for increased knowledge, skill and professional attributes in the field of geophysics. Today, the CSEG is a thriving organization. CSEG's mandate is to promote the science of geophysics among its members, especially as it applies to exploration, and to promote fellowship and co-operation among those persons interested in geophysical prospecting.

### **The Frank S. Shea Memorial Award in Economic or Applied Geology**

**The Frank S. Shea Memorial Award** honours the student making the best presentation regarding an aspect of or with implications for economic or applied geology. If the winner of the Science Atlantic Best Paper Award gives an economic or applied geology presentation, then the Shea Award will go to the economic or applied geology presentation judged to be next best.

The award was established by the Mining Society of Nova Scotia at its annual meeting in June 1981 to honour Frank Shea, a long-time member and former president.

### **About Frank Shea**

During some 27 years, Frank Shea was engaged in mineral resources exploration and development activities in the Atlantic region. For more than 10 years he served as Chief Geologist and division director of the Mineral Resources and Geological Services Division in the former Nova Scotia Department of Mines. Frank graduated from St. Francis Xavier University in 1954 with a BSc in geology. He continued his studies at Dalhousie University, receiving his Master's degree in 1958. Frank had a great love for his native province and promoted its welfare by assisting mineral exploration and research projects whenever and wherever he could. He was a strong supporter of educational programs in geology such as the geology field school at Crystal Cliffs near Antigonish and prospector training.

### **Judging**

Student papers are reviewed and judged for content in economic or applied geology or implications for economic/applied geology by a panel of practicing geologists. For practical purposes, this will be done the same panel of judges as evaluates the other awards. If there are no papers on economic or applied geology deemed worthy during the annual AUGC, the award may not be given.

### **The Award**

The award consists of a cheque (\$500 in 2015) for the winning student and a \$100 cheque for the geoscience club that the student represents.

### **Sponsor Information**

The Frank Shea Memorial Award is sponsored by the [Mining Society of Nova Scotia](#). Organized in the 1890s to promote the mineral industry, to share technical knowledge and to encourage fellowship, this Society was one of the founding members of the Canadian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy (CIM), the premier mining organization in Canada. The Society is pleased to support this award honouring a student, the contributions of Frank Shea, and the economic impact of geology on the Canadian economy.

### **Atlantic Geoscience Society (AGS) Environmental Geoscience Award**

**The Atlantic Geoscience Society Award** was established in 2015 by the Atlantic Geoscience Society to recognize the best project (talk or poster) at the annual AUGC involving a significant component of environmental geoscience.

### **Judging**

Student papers are reviewed and judged for content in environmental geoscience or implications for environmental geoscience by the same panel of judges as evaluates the other awards.

### **The Award**

The award consists of a monetary prize (\$100 in 2015) to the winning student and a plaque that will reside at that student's university until the next AUGC.

### **Sponsor Information**

The [Atlantic Geoscience Society](#) exists to promote a better and wider understanding of the geology of Atlantic Canada, both to its members and to the public. An entirely volunteer association, the AGS brings together earth scientists from universities, government institutions, the environmental, mining, and petroleum industries, and consultants in the Atlantic provinces.