



Structural Geology
& Tectonics Division



<http://gac.esd.mun.ca/sgtd>

THE MAIN THRUST

***NEWSLETTER OF THE CANADIAN TECTONICS GROUP AND THE
STRUCTURAL GEOLOGY AND TECTONICS DIVISION OF THE
GEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF CANADA***

Fall/Winter 2010/2011



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1. **Students: apply for a grant of up to \$500 to attend GAC-MAC in Ottawa!**

As a new venture, the SGTD will provide support to enable students to attend the GAC-MAC annual meeting in Ottawa. A total of \$1000 (maximum \$500 to any one applicant) is available to support student travel to the Ottawa GAC-MAC meeting. Priority will be given to students who are presenting talks or posters, and who wish to attend either of the sponsored field trips (see below). Students should contact the chair (john.waldron@ualberta.ca), attaching a copy of a submitted abstract, together with a short cover letter outlining the costs associated with attendance.

Deadline: March 31st 2011.

2. **Winners of 2010 Awards**

The best PhD thesis award was given for the thesis by: Kyle P. Larson, Department of Geological Sciences and Geological Engineering, Queen's University (Supervisor Laurent Godin), entitled THE TECTONOMETAMORPHIC EVOLUTION OF THE GREATER HIMALAYAN SEQUENCE AS EXPOSED IN CENTRAL NEPAL AND ADJACENT SOUTH-CENTRAL TIBET.

The best MSc thesis award was given for the thesis by: Jennifer Anne Macauley: Department of Geology, University of Toronto (Supervisor Alexander Cruden), on TIMING AND MECHANISMS CONTROLLING EVAPORITE DIAPYRISM ON ELLEF RINGNES ISLAND, CANADIAN ARCTIC ARCHIPELAGO.

Unsuccessful submissions in 2010 will be carried over to the 2011 competition.

3. **Call for Submissions for the 2010 Jack Henderson Best MSc Thesis Award and Best PhD Thesis Award.**

We are calling for submissions for the **Best MSc Thesis Award** and the **Best PhD Thesis Award**. Theses submitted to a Canadian university and successfully defended in the 2010 calendar year are eligible. **Submissions must be received by February 28th, 2010.** A submission can be made by the thesis supervisor, by the student, or by any member of the division. It should include a "statement of nomination" letter from the supervisor or a thesis examiner, stating that the thesis was successfully defended in 2010, outlining the key contributions that it makes to structural geology and tectonics, and identifying a chapter or chapters in the thesis that are of particular excellence. In the case that the student submits a copy of the thesis, the onus is on the student to make sure that the supervisor (or a member of the examination committee in the case that the supervisor is not available) submits the nomination letter. Theses for which we receive no nomination letters will not be considered for an award.

We prefer to receive theses as pdf documents by mail on a CD or DVD. Please send the theses to:

Bruno Lafrance (SGTD Vice Chair) Department of Earth Sciences Laurentian University Sudbury, Ontario, P3E 2C6 Telephone: (705)675-1151 ext 2264 Fax: (705) 675-4898 E-mail:blafrance@laurentian.ca.

Deadline: submissions must be received at the above address by Feb 28th, 2011

4. Dave Elliott Best Paper Award

We are also interested in submissions for the **Best Paper Award**. Because of a shortage of submissions in previous years, we are trying something different - or rather, we are going back to a scheme that we used to run - whereby your councilors will prepare a shortlist of papers written by authors based in Canada or dealing with Canadian topics and with publication date in the 2010 calendar year. Priority will be given to peer-reviewed publications. We will then appoint a small committee (of individuals not involved with any of the shortlisted papers, or course) to review the shortlisted papers and select a winner. However, submissions from the membership are still welcome, and should include a nomination letter and a PDF file of the paper. Submissions by the authors will be considered. These submissions should go, before February 28, to: John Waldron (SGTD Chair) john.waldron@ualberta.ca

The winners will be announced at the GAC Award Luncheon at the 2011 GAC-MAC annual meeting in Ottawa.

5. 2010 CTG/SGTD Workshop



The 30th CTG meeting, co-hosted by the SGTD, was held at Penticton BC, ably organized by Lori Kennedy of UBC. An excellent field trip, held in fine fall weather, looked at the Geology of the Okanagan Valley Shear Zone, with input also from Dan Gibson and Sarah Brown. The field trip was followed by talks and posters, on wide-ranging topics in structural geology and tectonics. The program with abstracts, the field-trip guide and a series of photos from the meeting are available on the SGTD/CTG website at <http://gac.esd.mun.ca/sgtld/>



6. New Web Site

The new web site is now up and running thanks to the efforts of our tireless webmaster Jürgen Kraus. The site is now housed on the GAC servers at Memorial University at url: <http://gac.esd.mun.ca/sgtd>

We will of course leave an appropriate automatic redirection in place at the old site for as long as necessary.

7. Tectonics and structural geology at the Ottawa 2011 general meeting

The 2011 GAC-MAC joint annual meeting will be held in Ottawa from May 25-27.

The following sessions, sponsored by the Structural Geology and Tectonics Division, may be of particular interest to our division members.

The Ottawa-Bonnechere graben and other large intracratonic fault systems: origin in supercontinent breakup, faulting and reactivation, magmatic evolution and sedimentary systems. George Dix, Wouter Bleeker

This symposium will examine the structural, magmatic, and sedimentary characteristics and evolution of large-scale Phanerozoic fault systems linked to supercontinent breakup (Rodinia, Pangaea), and their reactivation through time. We hope to provide a focus on the Ottawa-Bonnechere graben but equally invite contributions on other Phanerozoic rift systems, as well as Precambrian analogues. Associated with this symposium there will be a fieldtrip examining the evolution of the Ottawa-Bonnechere graben.

Tectonic history of the Appalachian-Caledonian and related orogens. Sandra Barr, Cees van Staal, John Waldron, Chris White, Alex Zagorevski

This multi-disciplinary international session is aimed at all aspects of the geological evolution of the Appalachian-Caledonian and related mountain belts, including but not limited to establishment of Iapetan oceanic basins, terrane provenance, evolution, accretion, and post-assembly translation. We hope to showcase the tremendous progress that has been made in our understanding of the Appalachian-Caledonian orogen in the past 20 years, and also to emphasize the outstanding problems and the ways in which they can be addressed. Both oral and poster contributions are welcome, as is student participation.

For further details see the GAC MAC website at <http://www.gacmacottawa2011.ca/technicalprogram.php>

Several field trips may also be of interest CTG/SGTD members. In particular, the following are sponsored by the division:

Field Trip #1A: Tectonic evolution and sedimentary record of the Ottawa-Bonnechere Graben: examining the Precambrian and Phanerozoic record of magmatic activity, faulting and sedimentation (5 days). *Wouter Bleeker, George Dix, Tony Davidson*

A field trip running along the axis of the graben from the Lake Nipissing area to the Montreal region, examining the late Precambrian tectonic and magmatic history associated with the initiation of the graben, in the context of Rodinia rifting and breakup, the Early Paleozoic sedimentary record of basin fill and fault reactivation, and post-Ordovician faulting and magmatism. This is a 5 day, pre-conference fieldtrip commencing May 20 and ending May 24. The fieldtrip begins and ends in Ottawa. 25 persons maximum.

Field Trip #1B: **The defining tectonic elements of Ganderia (5 days)**. *Cees van Staal, Sandra Barr, Les Fyffe, Susan Johnson, Malcolm MacLeod, Adrian Park, Chris White, Reg Wilson*

A transect through the Ganderia microcontinent, New Brunswick Appalachians. This trip will visit all constituent parts of Ganderia relevant to its Late Neoproterozoic to Devonian tectonic history, which include the Penobscot, Salinic and Acadian orogenic cycles. Elements visited comprise the Neoproterozoic to Early Cambrian Brookville and New River terranes; the late Early Cambrian to Early Ordovician Penobscot arc/backarc complex, the Middle Ordovician Popelogan arc/Tetagoche backarc and Late Ordovician to Late Silurian Salinic Brunswick subduction complex and associated forearc rocks in northern New Brunswick (with the only known blueschists in the Appalachians), the Silurian Fredericton trough and the Silurian coastal arc and Mascarene backarc. The 5 day field trip begins and ends in Fredericton, New Brunswick, May 28 until June 1. Maximum 22 persons.

For further details, see the GAC MAC website at <http://www.gacmacottawa2011.ca/fieldtrips.php>

8. 2011 CTG/SGTD 31st Fall Workshop

Plans for the next fall workshop of the CTG are at a preliminary stage. Tentatively, it is hoped to run a workshop in the Sudbury area, focussing on structures that post-date the impact, and organized by Bruno Lafrance of Laurentian University. These plans are at a very preliminary stage and subject to change. Keep an eye on the CTG/SGTD website at <http://gac.esd.mun.ca/sgtd/> for updates on the location and date, or come to the business meeting of the group at the Ottawa GAC-MAC annual meeting in May, for updated information.

9. SGTD Business Meeting

A business meeting of the SGTD was held at the Penticton workshop. Minutes of the meeting are appended to this Newsletter.

The next business meeting will be held at the GAC annual meeting 2011 in Ottawa.

10. Current SGTD Executive and Councillors

Chair: *John Waldron*, University of Alberta

Vice Chair: *Bruno Lafrance*, Laurentian University

Secretary: *Jürgen Kraus*, Mortal Oil Ltd.

Treasurer: *Andy Okulitch*, GSC (Vancouver)

Dan Gibson, Simon Fraser University

Lyal Harris, Institut national de la recherche scientifique

Edith Martel, Northwest Territories Geoscience Office

Joseph C. White, University of New Brunswick

11. Minutes of the SGTD Business Meeting at CTG/SGTD 2010, Penticton BC.

(Minutes remain unofficial until approved at the following business meeting.)
Meeting held at the Days Inn, Penticton, British Columbia, during the 30th annual joint fall workshop of the Canadian Tectonics Group .
Chaired by SGTD chair John Waldron.
Minutes recorded by SGTD secretary Jürgen Kraus.
11 members in attendance.
Meeting called to order at 8:30 pm.

Agenda:

1. Approval of the minutes of the last business meeting
2. Matters arising
3. Subscriptions
4. CTG mailing list
5. Sponsorship of sessions and field trips at CTG and GAC
6. Student support for attendance at CTG and GAC
7. Next CTG/SGTD workshop
8. Other business

1. Approval of the minutes of the last business meeting

No amendments or corrections needed. Andy Okulitch proposed and Willem Langenberg seconded. All voted in favour.

2. Matters arising

The question arose how to obtain more nominations for the awards the SGTD has to offer. For example, there was no submission for best paper for the 2009 calendar year.

It was decided that we go back to the old modus according to which each member of the committee was assigned monitor one journal for potential candidates. For the 2010 calendar year, award nominations in all categories will be accepted in January 2011.

3. Subscriptions

After the raise of the annual SGTD membership fee from \$6 to \$10, it was discussed what the subscription money should be used for. Treasurer Andy Okulitch reported a current balance of approximately \$10,000, with \$600 coming in through membership fees per annum. In order to spend this money, a few changes were proposed: the Jack Henderson award for the best PhD will from now on be given to two winners, whereby the amount depends on the qualities of the theses: the first prize will be up to \$500, and the second up to \$250. In analogy, the best M.Sc. thesis will be awarded with up to \$400, and the second best with up to \$200. The best paper award remains at \$200 with its prestige being the main asset.

Phil Simony proposed these changes and Paul Williams seconded them. All voted in favour.

4. CTG mailing list

After a number of recent withdrawals from the list, it was discussed whether to change the practice of enrolling new SGTD members automatically. It was agreed to leave things as they are.

5. Sponsorship of sessions and field trips at CTG and GAC

In the last business meeting of May 2010, it had been agreed on to sponsor a symposium and field trip the 2011 GAC/MAC in Ottawa and to allocate \$500 for student travel (Wouter Bleeker, Ottawa-Bonnechere Graben). It was suggested to sponsor another session and fieldtrip (Cees van Staal; Northern Appalachians) with no financial obligation other than

allocating another \$500 towards student travel. This means a total of \$1000 for student travel for GAC/MAC 2011.

John Waldron proposed, Jürgen Kraus seconded, and all voted in favour.

6. Student support for attendance at CTG and GAC

As discussed above, the SGTD sponsors student travel to GAC/MAC with a total of \$1000 and max. \$500 per person. Eligible are students who have submitted an abstract. If more than two students apply, the money may be split evenly between them.

7. Next CTG/SGTD workshop

It was suggested to approach Bruno Lafrance to host next year's workshop in Sudbury, ON. If Bruno feels unable to do it, a workshop based in Thunder Bay, ON, would be a second possibility.

8. Other business

None.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm