

THE MAIN THRUST

NEWSLETTER OF THE STRUCTURAL GEOLOGY AND TECTONICS DIVISION OF THE GEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF CANADA

Fall/Winter 2007/2008

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1. Change of Councillor

At the business meeting held in October, 2007 (at the Matawin CTG/SGTD Workshop), Lyal Harris (INRS-ETE, Quebec) was elected as a councillor. Shaocheng Ji completed his term as a councillor. We would like to thank Shaocheng Ji for his service to the SGTD. The current executives of the division are listed at the end of this Newsletter.

2. 2007 CTG/SGTD Workshop, Matawin, Quebec

The 27th CTG meeting, co-hosted by the SGTD, was held at Matawin, Quebec, 12-14 Oct. 2007. It was excellently organized by Alain Tremblay and Normand Goulet (UQAM). Léopold Nadeau (GSC-Québec) led a fieldtrip into the Grenville Province, focusing on granulite dome structures surrounded by migmatites and amphibolite-grade gneisses. Thirty-five delegates from coast to coast attended the meeting. The program with abstracts, the field-trip guide and a series of photos from the meeting will be available on the SGTD/CTG website (www.brocku.ca/ctg).



3. SGTD Business Meeting

A SGTD business meeting was held at SGTD/CTG 2007 at Matawin, QC. Minutes of the meeting are appended to this Newsletter.

The next business meeting will be held at GAC-MAC 2008 in Quebec.

4. Preview of Quebec 2008 GAC-MAC-SEG-SGA Joint Annual Meeting

The 2008 GAC/MAC/SEG/SGA annual meeting will be held in Quebec City from May 26 through May 28, 2008. The following sessions may be of particular interest to our division members. Note that *SS11 (Structure, tectonics and geodynamics of the lithosphere)* is intended to be a very general “special session” for all structural and tectonic papers that won’t fit in any other sessions.

SS3- Physical simulations in geosciences: applications of new technologies

Organizers: Lyal Harris (Institut national de la recherche scientifique), Bernard Long (Institut national de la recherche scientifique)

SS7- Grenvillian studies – challenges and opportunities

Organizers: Léopold Nadeau (Commission géologique du Canada), Louise Corriveau (Commission géologique du Canada)

SS11- Structure, tectonics and geodynamics of the lithosphere

Organizers: Shoufa Lin (University of Waterloo), John Waldron (University of Alberta)

SS17- Tectonic setting of base metals deposits in the Northern Appalachians

Organizers: Sébastien Castonguay (Commission géologique du Canada), Cees van Staal (Geological Survey of Canada), Neil Rogers (Geological Survey of Canada), Tom Skulski (Geological Survey of Canada)

SS19- Experimental Studies of the Lithosphere

Organizers: Cliff Shaw (University of New Brunswick), Lori Kennedy (University of British Columbia)

SY2- The geodynamic significance of suture zones : From the Precambrian to the Cenozoic occurrences

Organizers: Réjean Hébert (Université Laval), Yildirim Dilek (Miami University, Oxford, Ohio)

Additional information is available on <http://quebec2008.net/>

Abstract deadline is January 20, 2008.

5. Preview of the 2008 CTG/SGTD Fall Workshop (New Brunswick)

The 2008 CTG/SGTD meeting will be held in New Brunswick (Moncton?) on Oct. 17-19 (dates tentative). It will be organized by Andy Parmenter and Co. at University of New Brunswick. Sandra Barr (Acadia University) and Adrian Park (University of New Brunswick) will lead a field trip into the Caledonia Highlands in the vicinity of Fundy National Park in southern New Brunswick. Updates on the meeting will be posted on the SGTD/CTG's website (www.brocku.ca/ctg/).

6. Winners of the 2007 Jack Henderson Best Thesis Awards

Jack Henderson Award for Best Ph.D. Thesis

Paul Wilson of the University of New Brunswick for the thesis:

"Structural geology, tectonic history and fault zone microstructures of the Upper Palaeozoic Maritimes basin, southern New Brunswick".

The thesis was supervised by Joe White.

Jack Henderson Award for Best M.Sc. Thesis:

Ms. Dawn Ann-Marie Kellett of Queen's University for the thesis:

"Characterization and age of north-verging back structures in the Tethyan sedimentary sequence, Hidden Valley, Central Nepal Himalaya".

The thesis was supervised by Laurent Godin.

7. Winners of the 2007 Dave Elliott Best Paper Awards

J.K. Madsen, D.J. Thorkelson (Simon Fraser University), **R.M. Friedman** (University of British Columbia) and **D.D. Marshall** (Simon Fraser University) for the paper: “*Cenozoic to Recent plate configurations in the Pacific Basin: Ridge subduction and slab window magmatism in western North America*”.
Published in *Geosphere*, 2006, v. 2, no. 1, p. 11–34.

8. Call for Submissions for the 2008 Jack Henderson Best MSc Thesis Award and Best PhD Thesis Award, and Dave Elliott Best Paper 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 2007 calendar year are eligible. Submission deadline is January 31, 2008. A submission can be made by the thesis supervisor or by the student. It should include a “statement of nomination” letter from the supervisor, stating that the thesis was successfully defended in 2007 and outlining the key contributions that it makes to structural geology and tectonics. 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 key member of the supervisory committee in the case that the supervisor is not available) submits the nomination letter, as a form of quality control. Theses for which we receive no nomination letters will *not* be considered for an award. Please send the theses to:

Bruno Lafrance (SGTD Vice Chairman)
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.

We are also calling for submissions for the Best Paper Award. Papers written by authors based in Canada or dealing with Canadian topics and published in the 2007 calendar year are eligible. Submission deadline is also January 31, 2008. A submission should include a nomination letter and a PDF file of the paper. Submissions by the authors will also be considered. These submissions should go to:

Shoufa Lin (SGTD Chairman)
Department of Earth Sciences
University of Waterloo
200 University Avenue West
Waterloo, Ontario, N2L 3G1
Tel: +1 (519) 888-4567, ext. 36557
Fax: +1 (519) 746-7484

E-mail: shoufa@sciborg.uwaterloo.ca.

The winners will be announced at the GAC Award Luncheon at the 2008 GAC-MAC annual meeting in Quebec.

9. Season's Greetings from All Current SGTD Executive and Councillors

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Chairman: *Shoufa Lin*, University of Waterloo

Vice Chairman: *Bruno Lafrance*, Laurentian University

Secretary: *Jürgen Kraus*, Mortal Oil Ltd.

Treasurer: *Andy Okulitch*, GSC (Vancouver)

Councillors:

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

Appendix. Minutes of the SGTD Business Meeting at CTG/SGTD 2007, Matawin, QC

October 13th 2007

Chaired by SGTD chairman Shoufa Lin.

Minutes recorded by SGTD secretary Jürgen Kraus.

Thirteen members in attendance: Normand Goulet, Lyal Harris, Elena Konstantinovskaya, Jürgen Kraus, Bruno Lafrance, Shoufa Lin, Andy Okulitch, David Schneider, Fried Schwardtner, Alain Tremblay, Phil Simony, John Waldron, Joe White. Many others were present, some of which had failed to pay their 2007 division dues.

Meeting called to order at 9:30 pm.

Agenda:

1. Jack Henderson Awards 2007
2. Thesis submissions for Jack Henderson award
3. Sponsoring of CTG meeting by SGTD of GAC
4. GAC/MAC Quebec City 2008 special sessions
5. GAC/MAC Toronto 2009 special sessions
6. New councillors
7. Finances

1. Jack Henderson Awards 2007

The best paper award went to J.K. Madsen, D.J. Thorkelson (Simon Fraser University), R.M. Friedman (University of British Columbia) and D.D. Marshall (Simon Fraser University) for the paper "Cenozoic to recent plate configurations in the Pacific Basin: Ridge subduction and slab window magmatism in western North America". Published in *Geosphere*, 2006, v. 2, no. 1, p. 11-34.

The best PhD thesis was awarded to Paul Wilson of the University of New Brunswick for the thesis: "Structural geology, tectonic history and fault zone microstructures of the Upper Palaeozoic Maritimes basin, southern New Brunswick". The thesis was supervised by Joe White, who picked up Paul's award on his behalf.

The best M.Sc. thesis award was won by Dawn Ann-Marie Kellett of Queen's University for the thesis: "Characterization and age of north-verging back structures in the Tethyan sedimentary sequence, Hidden Valley, Central Nepal Himalaya". The thesis was supervised by Laurent Godin, who also accepted the award on Dawn's behalf.

It was remarked that the submissions for the best theses defended and papers published in 2007 will be the end of January 2008.

2. Thesis submissions for Jack Henderson award

Joe White raised the motion that each thesis submitted should be considered for two consecutive years. This was seconded by Philip Simony. In the following discussion, it was established that such a modus gives the committee more flexibility in years of low submission numbers. The vote in favour for it was unanimous.

3. Sponsoring of CTG meeting by SGTD of GAC

It was noted that the Matawin 2007 meeting was the second (after Crownest Pass'2006) sponsored by GAC's SGTD. Reasoning was GAC's liability insurance coverage for the meeting.

4. GAC-MAC Quebec City 2008 special sessions

Lyal Harris raised the motion for a special session "Recent Advances in Physical Modelling", and it was seconded by John Waldron. Lyal also expressed his plan to apply for sponsorship for bringing in an invited speaker. The special session was approved unanimously, but a final decision will have to be made by the Quebec 2008's organizers.

5. GAC-MAC Toronto 2009 special sessions

No suggestions yet for Toronto 2009. Your ideas are most welcome!

6. New councillor

Elena Konstantinovskaya proposed that Lyal Harris become new councilor. The vote was unanimous. Congratulations, Lyal.

7. Finances

Treasurer Andy Okulitch announced a current balance of approximately \$7000. The money coming in from memberships slightly exceeded the expenses for the awards.

Discussion followed on Sébastien Castonguay's request for the SGTD to contribute funds towards bringing keynote speakers to a special session at GAC-MAC 2008. After some discussion, it was agreed that SGTD will contribute \$500 to each of the following 3 SGTD-sponsored special sessions at GAC-MAC 2008, if the session organizers request it and demonstrate the need:

SS3- Physical simulations in geosciences: applications of new technologies

SS17- Tectonic setting of base metals deposits in the Northern Appalachians

SS19- Experimental Studies of the Lithosphere.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:15 pm.