

THE FLUX LINE

News of the Geomagnetism and Paleomagnetism Section of AGU

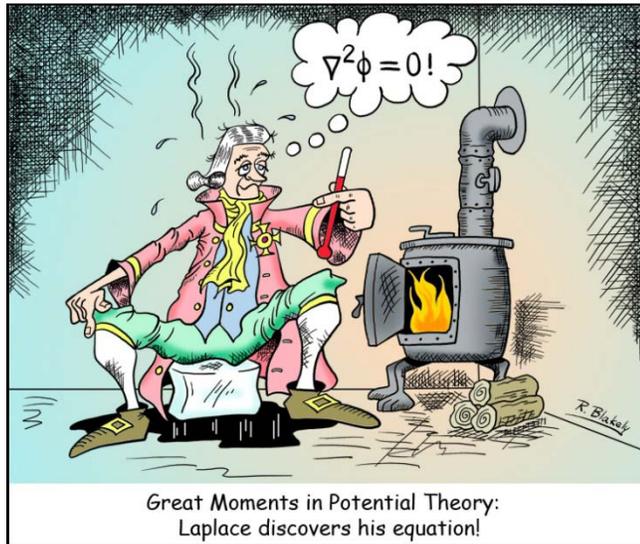
October 2010

Sabine Stanley: 2010 Recipient of the William Gilbert Award

We are pleased to announce that Sabine Stanley of the University of Toronto is our 2010 recipient of the William Gilbert Award. The Gilbert Award recognizes outstanding and unselfish work in magnetism of Earth materials and of the Earth and planets. It is given once per year, and in even years (including this year) is restricted to young scientists. Sabine was nominated for important theoretical contributions to our understanding of planetary magnetism. The Gilbert Award will be presented to Sabine at the GP Business Meeting and Reception in San Francisco next December (see paragraph below).

Fall AGU Meeting prognosis

Gary Acton, outgoing GP Secretary, has organized a great set of GP sessions for the 2010 Fall AGU Meeting. The number of GP sessions has ranged between 10 and 14 over the past few years, with 13 scheduled in 2010. The number of GP abstracts has declined over the years: 293 in 2008, 262 in 2009, and 225 in 2010. Some of this decline reflects the increase in the number of AGU focus groups, as some focus groups (e.g., Near-Surface Geophysics, Studies of the Earth's Deep Interior) naturally draw some GP-related presentations.



Andrew Jackson: 2010 Bullard Lecturer

Congratulations to Andrew Jackson for his selection as the 2010 Edward Bullard Lecturer. Andy is a professor at the Institut für Geophysik, Zürich, and is well known for his research on core dynamics, secular variation, and earth rotation. The Bullard Lecture is a GP award given annually at the Fall AGU Meeting as part of the AGU Bowie Lecture Series. The Bullard Lecture will take place Thursday, December 16, 2:45 pm, in Moscone South 103. Note that the Bullard Lecture is an afternoon event this year, unlike the evening events of previous years. Andy's presentation is titled *Geomagnetic Secular Variation as a Window on the Dynamics of Earth's Core*.

GP Business Meeting and Reception

Please plan to attend the GP Business Meeting and Reception during the 2010 Fall AGU Meeting. The event is scheduled for Tuesday, December 14, 6:30 pm, and will be held in Grand Ballroom B of the InterContinental Hotel San Francisco. This is a great time to meet old and new GP friends and colleagues. We are very grateful to 2G Enterprises for again underwriting the cost of this event!

Post-doc opportunities

- **Université de Nantes, France.** A post-doctoral position is available for study of the Martian remanent magnetic field, the past geodynamo, and its effect on Martian environments. Deadline is open. Contact Professor Benoit Langlais (benoit.langlais@univ-nantes.fr).
- **Institute for Rock Magnetism, Minneapolis.** Support is provided for up to 10-day research visits in three areas: Visiting Research Fellows, U.S. Student Fellows, and researchers whose primary goal is to

use the u-channel magnetometer system. Applications are accepted twice per year (April 30, October 30). Contact IRM (internet:irm@tc.umn.edu) or visit the web page at www.irm.umn.edu.

- **University of Tübingen**, Germany. A PhD opportunity is available to investigate the last 5 million years of paleoenvironmental evolution of the northeastern Tibetan Plateau. Deadline is open. Contact Professor Erwin Appel (Erwin.appel@uni-tuebingen.de).
- **U.S. Geological Survey**, various U.S. locations. The USGS Mendenhall Research Fellowship Program offers many post-doctoral opportunities in all types of earth-science investigations. Deadline is December 30, 2010. Information available at geology.usgs.gov/postdoc.

Post docs on the move

Nicola Pressling suggested this addition to The Flux Line: Post docs are a transient group, sometimes difficult to track during that limbo period between university and permanent job. It is important that our scientific community knows who they are, where they are, and that they may be available for collaborations. Beginning with this issue, we will list GP post docs (with their permission), providing brief bios and contact information. If you are a GP post doc, please send your information to The Flux Line. We start the series here with Nicola herself:

- **Nicola Pressling**: PhD from the University of Leeds. Currently an NERC Research Fellow at the University of Southampton working on the structural and magmatic evolution of the ocean crust from reoriented IODP cores. N.J.Pressling@soton.ac.uk.
- **Greig Paterson**: PhD from the National Oceanography Centre, University of Southampton. Currently a Young International Research Fellow at the Institute of Geology and Geophysics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, working on the paleomagnetism (with an emphasis on paleointensity) of the Emeishan large igneous province in SW China. greig.paterson@mail.igcas.ac.cn.
- **Chris Davies**: PhD from the University of Leeds. Currently a Green Scholar at Scripps Institution of Oceanography working on outer core evolution and geodynamo modeling. In April 2011 will begin an NERC Research Fellowship at the University of Leeds. cjdavies@ucsd.edu.
- **Maxwell Brown**: PhD from the University of Liverpool. Currently an NSF-supported research associate at the Institute for Rock Magnetism, University of Minnesota, working on paleointensity methodologies and the evolution of the paleomagnetic field. Maxwell will be moving to a post-doc position at GFZ Potsdam in January 2011. mcbrown@umn.edu.

Outstanding Student Presentation Award, Meeting of the Americas, Iguazu, Brazil

Gelvam Hartmann of São Paulo University was presented GP's Outstanding Student Presentation Award for his oral presentation at the 2010 Meeting of the Americas, Iguazu, Brazil. Gelvam's presentation was titled *Geomagnetic Field Intensity in Brazil for the Past 500 Years*, co-authored by A. Genevey, R.I. Trindade, Y. Gallet, M. Le Goff, C. Etchevarne, R. Najjar, and M.C. Afonso. Thanks to Avto Gogichaishvili, Claudia Gogorza, and Marcia Ernesto for serving as judges.

GP members to study the Louisville Seamount Trail

Four seamounts of the Louisville Seamount Trail (southwest Pacific) will be the target of IODP Expedition 330, which sets sail December 13 on the JOIDES *Resolution*. Anthony Koppers (Oregon State University) and Toshitsugu Yamazaki (Geological Survey of Japan) will serve as co-chief scientists, and Jeff Gee (Scripps Institution of Oceanography), Hiroyuki Hoshi (Aichi University of Education), and Nicola Pressling (University of Southampton) will head the paleomagnetic studies. The two-month investigation will drill at least 350 m into igneous basement and through individual lava flows. These new data will illuminate the magmatic evolution of the Louisville Seamount Trail, help resolve relative motion between Hawaiian and Louisville seamounts, and test the hypothesis that the Ontong Java Plateau formed from the Louisville mantle plume ~120 Ma.

Thanks to our GP donors

The GP Section is a generous bunch. In 2010, the GP Section ranked third (behind only Atmospheric and Space Electricity and Space Physics and Aeronomy) in the percentage of members giving to AGU. As of July 2, 2010, the top 268 GP members had donated nearly \$12,000 to AGU. Special thanks go to Lisa Tauxe, Chris Harrison, Dennis Kent, Lauren Keaton, Ann Hirt, Subir Banerjee, Jeff Gee, Rob Coe, John Geissman, and Volker Haak for their generous contributions and for setting an example for the rest of us.

Members can dedicate all or part of their AGU contributions to specific Sections and Focus Groups, and thanks to GP members, our Section has a small cash reserve. Over the years, we have used this reserve to fund the GP Business Meeting and Reception; support the costs of the Gilbert, Bullard, and Outstanding Student Presentation Awards; and react to minor financial matters that inevitably arise. But we need to do more in the way of advancing and supporting our science, and the Executive Committee will be discussing this very topic at its next meeting in December.

Jean Francheteau

The GP community lost one of its venerable leaders with the passing of Jean Francheteau on July 21, 2010. Jean played a critical role in our understanding of plate tectonics, with important contributions in paleomagnetism, marine geophysics, plate kinematics, sea-floor-spreading processes, and many others.



Jean received his PhD from Scripps Institution of Oceanography in 1970, completing his thesis on *Paleomagnetism and Plate Tectonics*. He began his exploration of the ocean floor in 1970, when he joined the French National Center for the Exploration of the Oceans (CNEXO). He was one of the co-leaders of the FAMOUS expedition (French-American Mid-Ocean Undersea Survey) in 1973 and 1974, which featured the first direct observations of the ocean floor. He published the book, *Plate Tectonics*, in 1973, co-authored with Xavier Le Pichon and Jean Bonnin. In 1981 Jean moved to the Institut de Physique du Globe de Paris, where he led the marine geophysics group. In 1992 he became Professor of Geophysics at the University of Brest, retiring in 2009. Jean was a Fellow of the American Geophysical Union, a Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society, and a recipient of the Silver Medal of the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS). Jean Francheteau authored more than 90 papers and textbooks that today form a foundation for paleomagnetic and plate-tectonic investigators who follow.

Newsletter contributions are welcome.

We welcome news items of general interest to the GP community. Please keep them brief (150 words or less) and send to Rick Blakely (blakely@usgs.gov).

—GP Executive Committee