

## **CGU Biogeosciences Section 2015 Annual Report**

### ***Membership, Meetings and Continued Growth***

We have had another exciting year and our membership continues to grow. We currently have 46 primary members, of which 21 are students. Many of our colleagues in other sections (HS, ESP) declare Biogeosciences as their secondary affiliation.

We have had two successful meetings this year. On February 7, 2015, the CGU – Eastern Section Annual Meeting was held at Wilfrid Laurier University (jointly with HS and ESP). There were 24 BGS oral presentations and 4 posters, which represented nearly half the presentations.

At the Joint Assembly in Montreal, there were 19 BGS sessions with more than 50 presentations. More than 40 student presentations were in BGS sessions!

### ***Biogeosciences Section Awards***

A warm congratulations to Kristine Haynes (PhD Student, University of Toronto) on receiving the Biogeosciences award for her presentation, titled “Climate change impacts on mercury mobility in peatland ecosystems” at the Joint Assembly in Montreal.

Congratulations to Allison McManus (MSc student, Wilfrid Laurier University) for winning the Biogeosciences award at the CGU – Eastern Section student conference in Waterloo for her talk “Implications of galling herbivory on ground thaw through shrub-soil heat transfers within Canada’s northern boreal forest”.

Due to our increasing numbers (particularly students), and, in keeping with what is done in the other CGU sections, students wishing to be considered for the BGS section award at the CGU Annual Meetings will now be required to submit an extended abstract as an application package for consideration of the award. The abstract should be 3 to 5 pages in length and will be due by 01-April of each year.

### ***Student Membership on Biogeosciences Executive***

We are seeking a student who wishes to be a member of the Biogeosciences executive committee. Students may be at the PhD or MSc level, and may be members for a term of 1-2 years. Roles of the student member may include assisting with our section website content, co-organizing a social event at the annual meeting (possibly with other student members from other sections), and to increase the presence of the BGS on social media. You will have a leadership role in student engagement in the CGU! We invite interested students to submit an application that includes a paragraph on why the student wishes to serve, innovative ideas they have for the position, and please include contact information to your advisor for a reference. The deadline for applications is September 1, 2015. Please send applications to [mmacrae@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:mmacrae@uwaterloo.ca).

### ***Biogeosciences field photographs and social media***

We wish to thank you all for your photo submissions for the Joint Assembly slideshow and for doing so in such a timely manner. The slideshow was a tremendous success.

There were over 50 photo slides from BGS members at the CGU information booth. We wish to make this effort an ongoing activity. Students and regular members are encouraged to submit photographs to us for inclusion in future slideshows, social media, and in Elements. Please let us know if you are willing to allow us to share your photographs on social media at the time that you submit them. Please send any pictures to both [mark.johnson@ubc.ca](mailto:mark.johnson@ubc.ca) and [cgu.outreach@gmail.com](mailto:cgu.outreach@gmail.com)

***Annual Meeting in Fredericton***

The meeting in Montreal was a terrific meeting. Now that things are winding down, we are looking forward to our next meeting in Fredericton, New Brunswick, May 29-June 2, 2016. This meeting will be held jointly with CMOS. We ask our membership to take advantage of the audience at the joint meeting and propose special sessions that will maximize synergies amongst these groups. Proposed special sessions on any topic are welcomed.

Thank you all for a fantastic year. See you in Fredericton!

Warm regards,  
Merrin Macrae  
President, Biogeosciences Section, Canadian Geophysical Union