



*Informing Professional Geologists  
of the events and developments  
that affect their profession*

### In This Issue:

- 1 Your Board members
- 1 Message From The Chair
- 2 Board Meetings
- 2 New Board Member
- 3 Outreach Program
- 3 Outreach Event Schedule
- 3 Geologist Licensing Board News
- 3 Continuing Education Update
- 4 2011 Legislative Activity
- 4 Summary of Disciplinary Cases
- 5 In Memory of Dick Galster
- 6 Are You Receiving the Latest Licensing News?
- 6 New Water Right Law (E2SSB 6267)  
Passed by Legislature
- 7 New Licensees
- 8 Geologist Licensing Board Statistics
- 8 Examination calendar
- 8 Renew Your License Online

### Your Board members:

Dave Norman, LG, LEG, LHG, Chair • *Olympia*  
 William D. Ernst, LG, Vice Chair • *Lakewood*  
 Gene St. Goddard, LG, LHG, Secretary • *Spokane*  
 Ray Brunson, Public Member • *Olympia*  
 Brian Beaman, LG, LEG, LHG, Member • *Carnation*  
 William Laprade, LG, LEG, Member • *Seattle*  
 Robert Mitchell, LG, LHG, Member • *Edmonds*

### Staff

Joe Vincent Jr., *Administrator*  
 Lorin Doyle, *Deputy Administrator*  
 Erica Hansen, *Administrative Assistant*  
 Sabrina Jackson, *Program Representative*  
 Sherri Lonsbery, *Management Analyst*  
 Kezia Prater, *Management Analyst*

### Message From The Chair

*Dave Norman LG, LEG, LHG*

I have been asked repeatedly over the years why we have geologist licensing in Washington. The Geologist's Licensing Act (RCW 18.220) was passed in 2000 for the purpose of regulating "the practice of geology to safeguard life, health, and property and to promote the public welfare." This can only be done if we as professional licensed geologists, engineering geologists and hydrogeologists are dedicated to competency and ethical behavior. This is the primary reason for licensing and the Geologist Licensing Board's main objective.

The board strives to maintain open lines of communication with the geology community. Not only is it a key component of effective regulation, it is also the board's opportunity to learn about the issues affecting you. One ongoing issue is the frustration surrounding the lack of specificity on what should be studied prior to the specialty exams. This topic has already received some attention, but will receive considerably more over the next year. In an effort to help people prepare more effectively for the specialty exams, we will be preparing a list of references that should help with prioritizing study for the engineering geology and hydrogeology exams. This reference list should be available soon on the geologists licensing web site <http://www.dol.wa.gov/business/geologist/>.

We will continue to visit geology departments at Washington's colleges and universities. These visits are an effective way of communicating the importance of licensing as part of a career as a professional and to coordinate with faculty so their graduates successfully complete the geologists licensing exam. We recently visited Whitman College in Walla Walla.

*Continues next page*

*Administrative services are provided to the Board by the Department of Licensing. We are committed to providing equal access to our services. If you need accommodation, please call (360) 664-6597 or TTY (360) 664-0116.*

Next up will be Eastern Washington University in Cheney.

I look forward to continuing my service to you in the year to come both as your new Geologist Licensing Board Chair and in my capacity as the State Geologist.

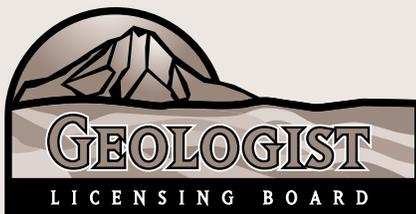
*David K. Norman*

## BOARD MEETINGS

The Geologist Licensing Board holds four regular meetings a year, usually in March, June, September and December, with special meetings as needed. Meeting times and locations can be found on the geologist website at:

[www.dol.wa.gov/business/geologist/](http://www.dol.wa.gov/business/geologist/).

You are invited to attend board meetings and give board members feedback on issues related to licensure.



The Geologist Licensing Board newsletter is published annually.

If you, or someone you know, would like to receive a copy of this publication, please contact us at:

**Mailing address:**

PO Box 9045  
Olympia, WA 98507-9045

**Street address:**

405 Black Lake Blvd.  
Olympia, WA 98502

**Phone:**

(360) 664-6597

**Fax:**

(360) 570-7098

**E-Mail:**

[Geologist@dol.wa.gov](mailto:Geologist@dol.wa.gov)

**Web site:**

[www.dol.wa.gov/business/geologist](http://www.dol.wa.gov/business/geologist)

The information in the newsletter is being made available to you as a public service by the Washington Geologist Licensing Board and does not constitute legal or professional advice. Neither the Board, nor any agency, officer, or employee of the state of Washington, warrants the accuracy, reliability, or timeliness of any information in this newsletter. Any opinions expressed in the articles are those of each author. It is the responsibility of each licensee to know, and comply with the laws relating to geologists.

## New Board Member

*Ray Brunson, Public Member*

My tenure on the board started the summer of 2010 while I was still employed with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as the Director of the Olympia Fish Health Center, a field laboratory specializing in fish pathology, disease diagnosis, and preventative medicine for fish populations being held and propagated at Federal Hatcheries in western Washington and the mid-Columbia area. Since then I have retired, but still believe in pursuing public service and keeping informed and involved in local and state issues. I was appointed to the public member position and have not been disappointed in finding that my experiences on the board are extremely interesting.

Since I am relatively new to the board, I should also explain that my former career gave me an excellent understanding of professional and governmental processes. I also continue my professional affiliations with the American Academy for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), and the American Fisheries Society, Fish Health Section (AFS-FHS) where I serve on the Policy and Position Committee. My former job was heavily steeped in biological sciences including fish biology, microbiology, pathology and physiology, but I was always interested in chemistry, mathematics, and the earth sciences. My new board membership has refreshed these interests and my past experiences in professional certification and governmental processes should help contribute to the Geologist Board business and deliberations.

I have been impressed with the dedication and professionalism of my current board members, and I am equally impressed with the Department of Licensing staff members and their support.

I look forward to serving the public and with the members on this board will work with the staff to continually strive to achieve the highest professional standards for the benefit of the citizens and consumers of Washington State.

---

## Outreach Program

*William Laprade, LG, LEG*

The Geologist Licensing Board continues to actively pursue outreach to students, licensees, and the public. This past year, board and DOL staff members met with students at the University of Puget Sound. The board held its March meeting in Walla Walla at Whitman College, where we met with faculty and students. Board members staffed a booth at the biennial Hydrogeology Symposium in Tacoma, where we interacted with hundreds of geologists. In October 2011, board members will staff an informational booth at the fall meeting of the American Public Works Association in Yakima, where we will educate and inform city and county officials about the role of geologists. Next year, the board will continue its visits to the geology-degree-granting universities by holding the March meeting at Eastern Washington University in Cheney.

The board's efforts have yielded many benefits:

1. Informed geology students
2. Prepared faculty members
3. Better educated citizens and public officials
4. Engaged licensees

The board looks forward to seeing you at a meeting or event in the year to come!

## Outreach Event Schedule

Geologist Licensing Board members will be attending the following events:

**APWA Fall Conference and  
Exhibitor Fair  
October 11-14, 2011, Yakima**

---

## Geologist Licensing Board News

### New Board policy

At the December 2010 meeting, the board adopted a policy allowing candidates without a degree to sit for the National Association of State Boards of Geology's (ASBOG) Fundamentals of Geology examination if they meet the educational requirements outlined in WAC 308-15-040 (2) (b) (ii). Candidates will still need appropriate education and experience before they can get a license.

Licensure applicants from other jurisdictions are required to have passed the National Association of State Boards of Geology (ASBOG) exam or an examination acceptable to the board. To determine if an exam is acceptable, the board typically requests the original exam content for evaluation which is how the reciprocity policy for pre-ASBOG exams from Idaho, Oregon and California was developed. The new policy adopted March 29, 2011 allows the board to evaluate applicants even if their state of licensure is unable to provide the exam content

All board policies can be found online at the board's website: <http://www.dol.wa.gov/business/geologist/geoboardpolicies.html>.

---

## Continuing Education Update

*Will Ernst, LG*

In the 2010 Newsletter the board asked for ideas and suggestions on continuing education for licensed geologists in Washington State. More specifically, we asked the following questions:

- Is there a need for a continuing education program for geologists in our state?
- Do you want a continuing education program established for our state?
- Should a continuing education program be voluntary or involve state supervision?
- What have you observed in continuing education programs in other states or professional organizations that would help guide our thinking regarding a program for geologists in Washington?

Your replies were thoughtful and diverse, ranging - as you might expect - from "Yes definitely, it adds credence to the licensing credential" to "No

*Continues next page*

not needed.” Replies were all forceful with sound reasoning.

We would like to continue this dialogue for two reasons. The Washington State Legislature has historically made continuing education in some form a requirement of the State’s licensing of professional practices, and so it’s incumbent on the board to attentively manage the topic for the profession. It’s also simply important that as geologists we maintain excellence, both as individuals and collectively, in the practice of our profession. We are committed to achieving these goals in the most constructive and effective way possible, and for this we need your help.

The board will continue to follow this subject closely, and as we do it is important for us to continue to hear your thoughts and suggestions. Please let us know what you think by sending an email to the board at [geologist@dol.wa.gov](mailto:geologist@dol.wa.gov) with “continuing education” in the subject line.

We would appreciate receiving your thoughts by November 30th so we may have the benefit of your ideas before the 2012 Legislative Session.

*Thank you in advance.*

---

## 2011 Legislative Activity

The 2011 Legislative Session produced several bills requiring review and analysis by program staff, including legislation proposing new regulatory programs for interior designers and soil and wetland scientists (detailed below).

### House Bill (HB) 1313 / Senate Bill (SB) 5225 Regulating soil and wetland science professions

The bills defined the regulation of the use of the titles of soil scientist and wetland scientist, as a profession, by adding a new chapter to Title 18 RCW. The bills created a 7-member board, a minimum standard of ethical conduct and professional responsibility; initial application, examination, and reciprocity requirements; and annual renewal requirements, including continuing education requirements for soil and wetland scientists.

Final 2011 status:

- HB 1313 failed to pass out of committee.
- SB 5225 passed out of committee but failed to progress any further in the 2011 legislative session. Both bills may be reintroduced in their present state during the 2012 legislative session.

---

## Summary of Disciplinary Cases

The Geologist Licensing Board regulates the profession of geology by investigating complaints of unprofessional conduct and incompetence against licensees, and issues of unlicensed practice. When a complaint is received by the board, an initial investigation is started to gather information about the situation, and usually involves contact with the subject of the complaint (the respondent). A board member is assigned as a case manager and serves as the technical expert. The investigation process can be lengthy and the case has several possible outcomes. The case may be closed by the board with no further action if not enough evidence is found to support the complaint or the respondent quickly remedies the situation. For more serious issues, the board may issue a statement of charges against the respondent, with sanctions for each offense. The respondent has an opportunity for a settlement conference to negotiate the sanctions or can ask for a hearing.

---

### Current Cases:

Unlicensed practice .....	2
Unprofessional conduct .....	0
Incompetence .....	0
Total open cases .....	2

---

### Closed Cases

*Case number: 2010-03-1100-00GEO*

*Respondent: A Licensee*

*Allegation: Unprofessional Conduct*

---

**Board Action: The complaint alleged the licensee was practicing beyond the scope of his license, based on a report. The case manager determined that while the respondent was practicing within the gray area between engineering and geology, the licensee was competent and the public was not harmed. The board accepted the case manager’s recommendation to close the case with no further action on June 7, 2011.**

In Memory of  
**Richard W. Galster**  
(1930–2011)

**R**ichard W. (“Dick”) Galster, AEG Honorary Member and Past President (1983) died on April 3, 2011. Dick had a distinguished 61-year career in engineering geology as a practitioner, leader, and author of numerous practical publications. A native of Seattle, he earned

BS and MS degrees in geology from the University of Washington. In this and later associations, Dick was a pupil and close associate of Howard A. Coombs, widely recognized as the pioneer Engineering Geologist of the Pacific Northwest. In 1955, after serving as an infantryman in the U.S. Army, and as a Geologist with one of the Columbia River Power & Irrigation Districts, he joined the Seattle District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as staff geologist. Later, as supervisory geologist, he participated in engineering geological investigations, the design and construction of Howard Hanson, Lower Monumental, and Wynochee Dams in Washington, and Libby Dam in Montana.

In 1973, Dick became District Geologist and Chief of the Seattle District Geology Section, a position he held until his retirement from government service in 1985. Rising to his concern for participation in professional society matters, Dick chaired AEG’s 11th Annual Meeting (Seattle, 1968). As a result of his supervision of numerous site investigations, Galster proposed A System of Engineering Geology Mapping Symbols (Bull. AEG, v. 14, 1977, no. 1, p. 39–47), which was the first attempt to stack stratigraphic notation to ground-surface map symbols, long overdue at the time. During this period he supervised seismic safety evaluations for 18 major dams in Washington, Oregon, Montana, California, and Idaho, provided construction advice for completion of the Libby project, and directed geological investigations, excavation plans, and specifications for Libby Dam. As a result of the need



*Dick and Wendy Galster on vacation in Hawaii*

for seismic design of Libby Dam, Dick mastered and became a recognized expert in Pacific Northwest seismicity, for Maximum Credible Event (MCE) determination.

From 1981 to 1985 Dick represented the Corps of Engineers on the U.S. Nuclear

Regulatory Commission advisory group for a then Hanford, Washington candidate site (“basalt”) proposed for the national high-level nuclear waste repository. He was awarded the Department of the Army Decoration for Meritorious Civilian Service in 1985. After leaving government service, he was a consultant to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Center for Nuclear Waste Regulatory Analysis-Southwest Research Institute, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and numerous engineering firms. He was recruited by Bob Holtz, as an adjunct faculty member in the Civil Engineering Department at the University of Washington, where he taught an annual graduate level class in engineering geology. Although retired from geologic consulting, Dick’s penchant for public service again arose in 2006. He volunteered for a position on the Washington State Geologist Licensing Board. He served a four-year term and was chair of the board in 2009.

In 1993 Dick was recognized by the Geological Society of America’s Engineering Geology Division for his editorship on *Engineering Geology in Washington* (Bulletin 78, Washington Division of Geology and Earth Sciences, 1989), receiving the Burwell Award. Dick teamed with Bill Laprade to write *Geology of Seattle, Washington, USA*, published as part of AEG’s *Cities of the World* series in 1991. Dick further deserves special thanks from

*Continues next page*

AEG for compiling the Association's History for its first 25 years— 1957 to 1982.

Dick was president of the Association of Engineering Geologists (1982–83), a Fellow of the Geological Society of America, and Chairman (in 1978) of its Engineering Geology Division. He received AEG's Clair P. Holdredge Award in 1991 (recognition of the "Washington" volumes) and the Association's Floyd T. Johnson Service Award in 1993. In 1995 he received the GSA Engineering Geology Division's Distinguished Practice Award. Dick was named an Honorary Member of AEG in 1998.

By his long, dedicated leadership in engineering geology, both in the Geological Society of America and the Association of Engineering Geologists; his practice with the Corps of Engineering; and later as a consultant; and his publications, Richard W. Galster set an outstanding example of professional excellence in engineering geology.

AEG Foundation is accepting donations in memory of Richard Galster (or others you may wish to honor). You may designate any fund, or donate to the Memorial Fund. Individual names are added to the AEG Foundation Honor Roll once donations received reach \$1,000. You can donate at [www.aegfoundation.org](http://www.aegfoundation.org) or contact Becky Roland at 303-757-2926.

## Are You Receiving the Latest Licensing News?

The Geologist Licensing Board is transitioning to electronic communication. If you are not on the Geologist ListServ, please sign up today.

To join the ListServ, visit our web site:  
[www.dol.wa.gov/business/geologist](http://www.dol.wa.gov/business/geologist)

- Under "What's New", select "Join Mailing List"
- Select the ListServ® link
- Select the "Join or leave the list (or change settings)" link
- Enter your email address and name, then select the join list button
- You will be sent a confirmation email, and then you will be added to the broadcast list.

## New Water Right Law (E2SSB 6267) Passed by Legislature

*Gene St. Godard, P.G., L.Hg.*

During the 2010 legislation session, Engrossed Second Substitute Senate Bill (E2SSB) 6267 passed the Washington State Legislature and was signed into law (with some line item veto) by the Governor on April 1st, 2010. This legislation was promoted by the Department of Ecology with the intention of streamlining water right permitting and making cost-reimbursement more financially amenable to applicants. The new law provides a mechanism for Ecology to do its own expedited permitting and charge applicants for those costs. The legislation also authorizes Ecology to develop and maintain a Certified Water Right (CWRE) program. Listed below are those sections that may be of interest:

1. An expansion of RCW 90.03.265 that allows cost reimbursement (Section 3);
2. Expedited processing of applications when specific conditions are met (Section 5);
3. Establishing and maintaining a list of CWRE (Section 7);
4. Modifications allowing claims to change via the 90.44.100 Showing of Compliance process (Sections 9 and 10).

The major change will be the development of a new certification for persons who conduct proof of appropriations on water right permits in the State of Washington. This CWRE certification will be issued by the Department of Ecology. The Geologist Licensing Board is monitoring the development of this certification program to assure it does not conflict with the geologist licensing program.

For those who are interested in this new law and the CWRE program, information is provided at the Department of Ecology web site: [www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wr/rights/cwre.html](http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wr/rights/cwre.html). We encourage you to stay informed of this new program's progression.

# *Congratulations!*

The Board would like to welcome all new Washington State geologist licensees during the period of April 2010 to May 2011.

## **Examination Licensees**

Michael August	Margo Gillaspy	Garrett Leque	Colleen Rust
Lee Bellah	John Gillaspy	Michael Mendes	James Schneider
Lauren Benson	Angela Goodwin	Timothy Mullin	Erik Scott
Erik Blumhagen	Cyrus Gorman	Jeffrey Mutti-Driscoll	Emily Smart
Sharon Brady	Jeremy Haney	Cody Nelson	Jessica Smith
Damon Brown	John Harrie	Nichole Pagano	Kathryn Stalker
Eric Buer	Heather Hirsch	Jennifer Parker	Gabriel Taylor
Patrick Cabbage	Derek Holom	Jeffrey Parker	Andrew Wade
Owen Callahan	David Jellum	Jonathan Peterson	Jeffrey Weiss
Daniel Coltrane	Beau Johnson	Joseph Pietraszek	August Welch
Matthew Davis	Christina Johnson	Chad Pritchard	Laura Wetter
Patricia DeOme	Branisla Jurista	Avery Richardson	Matthew Wheaton
Lyle Diediker	Timothy Kingsley	John Rose	Andrew Wiser
Andrew Drabick	Jeffrey Landrum	David Rugh	
Annalies Eipert	Jeffrey League	Phillip Rust	

## **Reciprocity Licensees**

Charles Andrews	Charles Crocetti	Randall Hicks	Nancy Nething
Brandon Ashby	Shane DeGross	Jason Hinkle	Andrew Schmidt
Robert Bartlett	David Evans	James Hogan	Laura Skow
Brad Bessinger	Terry Fisk	Daren Johnston	Jessee Taylor III
Katherine Cassidy	Brian Graham	Eric Matzner	Jonathan Turk
Torrey Copfer	Joseph Gustafson	Karen Miller	Peter Zawislanski
Harriet Cornachione	Becky Hawkins	Melissa Monti	

## **Hydrogeologist Licensees**

Brett Beaulieu	Jeremy Shaha	Jonathan Turk
Heather Hirsch	William Sullivan	Aaron Waggoner
Jeffrey Mutti-Driscoll		

## **Engineering Geologist Licensees**

Rex Flake	Jason Hinkle	Stephen Slaughter
Casey Hanell	David Jellum	Gabriel Taylor

# Geologist Licensing Board Statistics

## Licensing Activity for 4/1/10 to 6/10/2011

Licenses granted by Reciprocity..... 27  
 Licenses granted by ASBOG exam ..... 58  
 Active Geology licenses ..... 2305  
 Active Out-of-State Licenses..... 925  
*(Includes Geology, Hydrogeology and Engineering Geology licenses)*

## Examination Statistics

### JULY 2010 EXAM

	Examinees	Passed	Failed
Hydrogeology	7	7	0

### OCTOBER 2010 EXAM

	Examinees	Passed	Failed
Fundamentals of Geology	22	29	3
Practice of Geology	23	21	2
Engineering Geology	4	0	4

### MARCH 2011 EXAM

	Examinees	Passed	Failed
Fundamentals of Geology	28	17	11
Practice of Geology	20	16	4
Engineering Geology	7	6	1

# EXAM CALENDAR

## National Association of State Boards of Geology (ASBOG) Examinations Fundamentals of Geology and Practice of Geology

Exam date: September 30, 2011  
 Application deadline: July 8, 2011

## Fundamentals of Geology and Practice of Geology

Exam date: March 2, 2012  
 Application deadline: December 2, 2011

## Engineering Geology Specialty Examination

Exam date: March 2, 2012  
 Application deadline: December 2, 2011

## Hydrogeology

### Specialty Examination

Exam date: July 13, 2012  
 Application deadline: May 11, 2012

# Renew Your License Online

It's easy with a credit card and your renewal notice! Your renewal notice includes the link to the renewal site and a password. Follow the directions online at <https://fortress.wa.gov/dol/solar/> and save time and postage.

Three things to remember:

1. Your renewal date is your birthday.
2. You can only renew online if your license is current.
3. If you've moved in the last year, contact our office at [geologist@dol.wa.gov](mailto:geologist@dol.wa.gov) to update your record and make sure your renewal notice reaches you.

