



# RPG News

A Publication of the Mississippi State Board of Registered Professional Geologists

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**Mississippi State Board of  
Registered Professional  
Geologists**  
ph 601 354-6370  
fax 601 354-6032  
P.O. Box 22742  
931 Hwy 80 West  
Jackson, MS 39225-2742

email [geology@msbrpg.state.ms.us](mailto:geology@msbrpg.state.ms.us)

web [www.msbrpg.state.ms.us](http://www.msbrpg.state.ms.us)

## Board Members

### At Large

President

Charles T. Swann

### Academia

Vice President

Darrel W. Schmitz

### Environmental

John W. Green

### Mining / Mineral

### Extraction

W. Lester Aultman

### Government

Stephen L. Ingram

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Tommy Dunlap

Secretary

Pat Phillips

Robin Buchannon

Rick L. Ericksen

Del I. Gann

Ron Jinkins

Harold Karges

John Malanchak

Jim May

Ken Ruckstuhl

Winston Russell

Tony Stuart

## MOU Approved between RPG and Engineering Boards

- Ingram Appointed to Board
- Board Nominations
- MOU and Reciprocity Update
- Application Status and Web Page
- Sealing/Stamping Guidelines
- College and Universities Recognized
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### **Board Appointment**

In a late announcement, Mr. Stephen L. Ingram, Sr. was appointed by Governor Fordice to represent the Government Sector for the state, filling an un-expired term left by Mr. Rick L. Ericksen in June 1999.

### **Board Nominations**

The terms of current Board members John W. Green - Geotechnical/Environmental sector and Charles T. Swann - At Large member will expire. Nominees which have been selected by the Board's Nominating Committee are :

### **Geotechnical/Environmental Sector**

- John W. Green - Terry, MS
- Tommy Dunlap - Madison, MS
- Winston Russell - Hattiesburg, MS

**At Large Member** (chosen from any of the 4 mandated sectors)

- Charles T. Swann - Oxford, MS
- Jim May - Vicksburg, MS
- David Patrick - Hattiesburg, MS

Additional nominations may be made to the Board in writing as per §73-63-9 (Mississippi Code, Amended 1972). The election will be held in May by mail-ballot.

### **Memorandum of Understanding**

On October 5, 1999, the RPG Board and the PE/PLS Board signed a joint Memorandum of Understanding. See the web page for details.

### **Reciprocity / Comity**

The Mississippi RPG Board has signed a letter of understanding for reciprocity with the Alabama Board of Licensure for Professional Geologists. Mississippi now has agreements with both Georgia and Alabama. There are

several other states interested in discussing reciprocity/comity agreements with the Board (Arkansas and Indiana). There appears to be a keen interest nation-wide toward developing workable agreements between states. We will keep you advised as discussions progress. Contact the Board for details.

### **Applications Status**

With the "grandfathering" phase well behind us, the Board is closing-out the last few remaining applications received prior to the December, 1998 deadline. Those having incomplete applications submitted to the Board during the grandfather phase have now been deferred and after one (1) year they will be permanently closed. Upon closure, applicants will forfeit their application fee and be required to re-apply for registration and additionally take and successfully pass the ASBOG Fundamentals and Practices examinations.

### **Web Page -**

If you haven't visited our web page lately, you should! On it you will find: new and updated information on Board activities, Board meeting dates, a codified copy of the Geologists Practice Act of 1997, an Executive Summary of the law, Rules and Regulations, a copy of the RPG - PE/PLS MOU, ASBOG (National Association of Boards of Geology) test dates, and other related information. In addition, the Board's web page includes a directory (roster) of current RPG's registered here. If you have email, the Board wants your email address in order to disseminate information more readily. Please send your email to [geology@msbrpg.state.ms.us](mailto:geology@msbrpg.state.ms.us). The list/directory may be used by entities looking to employ or contract work. It's to your advantage to keep your address current.

### **Use of Registrants Embosser / Stamp**

The Board has received several inquiries regarding the use of a registrant's seal on documents. Although this issue may seem unclear to some, the Board has been quite

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clear in this regard: (from the April '99 newsletter)

### ***A Note on Sealing Documents -***

With reference to the clarification of sealing practices and the use of your stamp and/or embosser — ***Any geologic report, investigation, study, map, cross-section, etc. which may impact the public, directly or indirectly, should be conspicuously sealed by the registrant or a subordinate's work should be sealed by a registrant supervisor, as the case may be, per the Rules promulgated by the Board, as well as the law.*** If you have any doubt concerning the potential impact to the public, seal the document(s). These sealing practices may be extended to a geologic document which may be later used by others to affect the public. Again the recommended course of action by this Board is to seal anything you do which is geological in nature and scope and for which you, the registrant, are responsible for.

### **March 17, 2000 ASBOG Examination**

At the most recent ASBOG examination session there were 33 examinees which sat for the ASBOG Fundamentals Exam. The exam was held at Millsaps College, Jackson, MS.

### ***Mississippi College / Universities Recognized***

Commendations have gone out to two of Mississippi's four schools having geology departments. Recognition is as follows :

The University of Mississippi - 100%; Millsaps Col-

lege - 100%; and both Mississippi State University and the University of Southern Mississippi attained at least 50% registration of their staff.

### ***Electronic Distribution of RPG Newsletter***

We will be sending out test emails in the near future to all of those of you who have provided those addresses. We intend to electronically distribute the RPG Newsletter via email. This will provide a more cost effective and timely distribution of matters which are pertinent to our registrant's. As in the past the RPG Newsletter will also be posted on the Board's web site.

The RPG Newsletter format is currently being redesigned to better serve you, the registrant. If you have any suggestions please send them to the Board.

### **Oversight & Enforcement Activities :**

The Board has received two cases relating to registration and practice violations. These cases have been reviewed and one is currently pending additional review and feedback from other involved state boards of registration.

In keeping with other state boards of geologic licensure/registration, the Mississippi Board will publish the names of registrants who are found in violation of the Board's Rules, Code of Professional Conduct/Ethics, and/or the RPG law.

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**In This Issue...**

Bd Nominations, MOU, Reciprocity, Exams, School Commendations, Sealing Procedures.