

Consensus Statement on Ethics in the Geosciences

Washington, DC

16 September 2013

We, the undersigned representatives of national and international geoscientific societies and professional associations, assert the fundamental importance of protecting scientific integrity and of upholding ethical standards and behavior in the geosciences.

Geoscientists have considerable understanding of the processes that have formed and continue to shape our planet, and of the history of change to Earth and life through deep geological time. This understanding of our physical and biological environment is scientifically valid and has a role to play in the formation of policy, our use of the planet and its resources, and in developing our conception of the common good in relation to the Earth.

As concerned geoscientists, we wish to ensure that members of our societies, associations, and organizations behave at all times in an ethical manner.

We agree to work together to:

- Promote informed understanding of the role of ethics in the geosciences
- Raise standards of professional practice among our memberships
- Develop and promote a common Code of Ethics for geoscientists

Signed,

American Association of Petroleum Geologists

American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists – The Palynological Society

American Geophysical Union

American Geosciences Institute

American Institute of Hydrology

American Institute of Professional Geologists

American Rock Mechanics Association

Association for Women Geoscientists

Association of American State Geologists

Association of Environmental & Engineering Geologists

Council on Undergraduate Research, Geosciences Division

Geological Society

Geological Society of America

International Association of Hydrogeologists/U.S. National Chapter

International Medical Geology Association

Karst Waters Institute

National Association of State Boards of Geology

National Cave and Karst Research Institute

North American Commission of Stratigraphic Nomenclature

National Association of Geoscience Teachers

Paleontological Society

Society for Mining, Metallurgy, and Exploration, Inc.

Society of Economic Geologists

Society of Exploration Geophysicists

Society of Independent Professional Earth Scientists

Soil Science Society of America

The Society for Organic Petrology