

National Council of The Society of  
**Sigma Gamma Epsilon**



NATIONAL HONORARY SOCIETY in the EARTH SCIENCES

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Hello fellow members of Sigma Gamma Epsilon...

This is your **Call to Convention!!**

I hope everyone had nice holidays and are enjoying a robust start to your spring semester. This Spring Letter is devoted to inspiring you and your fellow SGE colleagues to come join us in beautiful Selmer, TN for our biennial National Convention, April 3 – 5, hosted by Eta Alpha Chapter, University of Tennessee, Martin. This is a time for you to flex those student muscles and help shape **your** Honors Society, as well as share some time with fellow SGE members and enjoy some exciting events in our program!

This year, our featured speaker will be Dr. Roy Van Arsdale, who will be presenting “The Geologic History of the Mississippi River.” Dr. Van Arsdale is a highly respected field geologist whose research centers on active tectonics within plate interiors such as the New Madrid Seismic Zone. His talk should be fascinating as he unfolds the earthshaking tale of the mighty river!

Fossils, fossils – who doesn’t like fossils?!? Being ardent earth historians, we are by nature intrigued by fossils. One of our more exciting events at convention will be a field trip to the Coon Creek Science Center. The Coon Creek Formation is a Late Cretaceous sandy marl deposit that hosts marine shells, crabs, snails and even sharks! We will enjoy looking for our little fossilized friends as well as learning about the geologic history of the area and participants may collect fossils to take home with them!

We will close our Saturday with a Star Party hosted by Dr. Lionel Crews, Astronomy Professor at the University of Tennessee. Dr. Crews has led these Star Parties for several years and has been the featured astronomer at places such as the Discovery Park of America. It promises to be a wonderful way to cap off the day’s events.

As you may know, your participation at the convention is supported by the National Office. Each chapter is entitled to representation by their advisor as well as a designated delegate, both of whom would receive a stipend to help cover costs of attending. More members are certainly encouraged to attend as alternates! ALL members who attend the full conference are entitled to a total refund of their registration fee if fees and forms are submitted by March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Information on how to register and more is outlined in the accompanying forms. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Paula Even at [even@SGEearth.org](mailto:even@SGEearth.org) or 319-505-3391.

**BONUS incentive** – if you submit your registration and fees by March 2<sup>nd</sup>, you get a free t-shirt!

Chapters wishing to have business items brought before the delegates must notify the National Office of their intentions by March 15<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Paula Even at [even@SGEearth.org](mailto:even@SGEearth.org).

See you at the Convention!