

Inland Geological Society

Newsletter of the Inland Geological Society

Volume 22 No. 8

August Speaker:

Dr. Dr. Donald R. Prothero

Professor of Geology

Occidental College, Los Angeles, CA

“Global catastrophes and mass extinctions: out with a bang or a whimper?”



In the public mind, the simplistic story of how an asteroid wiped out the dinosaurs, or how most mass extinctions were caused by impacts, is well established. What are the scientific data about mass extinctions? Do they have some common cause, such as asteroid impacts, giant volcanic eruptions, or climate change? Although the case seems settled in many people's minds, the evidence is quite different from what is widely believed.

Donald R. Prothero is Professor of Geology at Occidental College in Los Angeles, and Lecturer in Geobiology at the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena. He earned M.A., M.Phil., and Ph.D. degrees in geological sciences from Columbia University, and a B.A. in geology and biology (highest honors, Phi Beta Kappa) from the University of California, Riverside. He is currently the author, co-author, editor, or co-editor of 21 books and almost 200 scientific papers, including five leading geology textbooks and three trade books as well as edited symposium volumes and other technical works. He is on the editorial board of *Skeptic* magazine, and in the past has served as an associate or technical editor for *Geology*, *Paleobiology* and *Journal of Paleontology*. He is a Fellow of the Geological Society of America, the Paleontological Society, and the Linnaean Society of London, and has also received fellowships from the

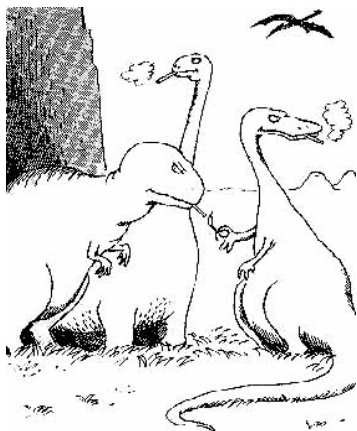
This Meeting:
Wednesday
August 2nd

Time:
Social: 6:00pm
Dinner: 7:00pm
Lecture:
7:30pm

Location:
[Riverside](#)
[Metropolitan](#)
[Museum](#)
(Directions Pg.3)

Coming to
Dinner?

Please RSVP:
By Monday
7/31
(951) 782-3295
food@inlandgeo.org
or
dlass@waterboards.ca.gov



The real reason dinosaurs became extinct

(Global Catastrophes, Continued from Pg. 1)

Guggenheim Foundation and the National Science Foundation. He has served as the Vice President of the Pacific Section of SEPM (Society of Sedimentary Geology), and five years as the Program Chair for the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology. In 1991, he received the Schuchert Award of the Paleontological Society for the outstanding paleontologist under the age of 40. He has also been featured on several television documentaries, including episodes of *Paleoworld* and *Walking with Prehistoric Beasts*.

Upcoming IGS Talks

Sept 7, 2006 (Thursday)

Bruce Sibbett, PG, CHG, Shaw Environmental, "Ascension Island, in search of equatorial heat, a Geothermal Adventure"

Oct 4, 2006 (Wednesday)

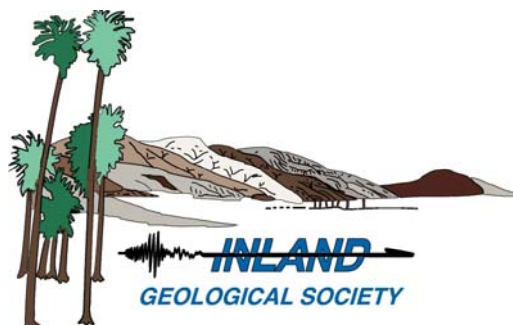
Arthur R. (Dick) Brown, Consulting Engineering Geologist/Dibblee Foundation
"Tom Dibblee, Field Geology's Grand Master"

Nov 9, 2006 (Thursday)

Maggie Gooding,
LSA Associates, Riverside,
California
GIS – Talk TBA

Dec 6, 2006 (Wednesday)

Dr. Michael McKibben, Professor of Geology, Department of Earth Sciences, University of California, Riverside



2006 IGS OFFICER CONTACT INFO

President

Greg Johnson
(gjohnson@ladpw.org)
and Patrice Copeland
(patrice.copeland@sbcglobal.net)

Secretary

Dixie Lass
(dlass@waterboards.ca.gov)

Membership Chair

Steve Mains
(watermains@aol.com)
(951) 780-5636

Vice President

Phuong Chau
(PCchau@leightongeo.com)

Treasurer

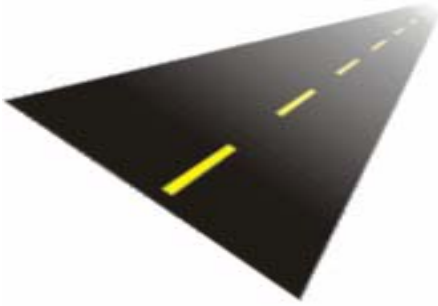
Margaret Gooding
(mgooding@adelphia.net)

Newsletter Editor/Web

Jennifer Ashlin
(jashlin@geomatrix.com)
(951) 273-7400

Directions to the IGS Meeting:

Riverside Metropolitan Museum is located at 3580 Mission Inn Avenue, on the southeast corner of Mission Inn Avenue and Orange Street, in downtown Riverside, across the street from the Mission Inn and the Riverside Public Library.

*From 91 North:*

Exit University Avenue,
Proceed straight to Mission Inn Ave.,
Turn Left (West) onto Mission Inn Ave,
Museum will be on left.

From 91 South:

Exit Mission Inn Avenue,
Turn Right (West),
Museum will be on left.

www.inlandgeo.org

Inland Geological Society

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250 E. Rincon St. Ste 204

Corona, CA. 92897