



16th SGA BIENNIAL MEETING

Plenary Discussion Session

Geoscience outreach – how can Baby Boomers connect with Gen-Z?

Organized by **Dale Sims**

President, Australian Institute of Geoscientists, email president@aig.org.au

Communicating the social and physical roles of geoscience in addressing our shared needs around the UN Sustainable Development Goals requires intergenerational outreach.

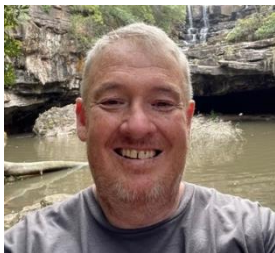
So too attracting, teaching and developing the future generations of geoscience professionals to deliver these needs.

This panel brings passionate geoscience educators/communicators together to address a simple question; How can we, as the current geoscience cohort, better communicate with and inspire our future professionals?

Format

One-hour duration, with a short introduction from the moderator Dale Sims followed by a brief introduction / perspective statement from each of the panellists, then open floor. Dale will have some focusing questions to guide discussion.

Panelists



Dr Peter Betts, Monash University, GSA President

Pete is a Professor in Structural Geophysics at the School of Earth, Atmosphere, and Environment, at Monash University. He is also the Associate Dean of Graduate Research, where he is responsible for the Ph.D. and Research Masters portfolio in the Faculty of Science. Peter is a geoscientist that straddles the geology-geophysics boundary. He is the current President of the Geological Society of Australia.



Dr Melanie Finch, James Cook University, Lecturer in Geoscience

Dr Melanie Finch is a structural and metamorphic geologist at James Cook University, Australia. Her research focus is on the links between deformation and metasomatism in shear zones, focussing on subduction channels as well as in the crust on shear zones related to critical mineral deposits. Melanie is a 2021-2022 'Superstar of STEM' and the President of Women in Earth and Environmental Sciences Australasia (WOMEESA).



Dr Richard Lilly, Adelaide University, and CEO of NeXUS

Richard is the Program Leader for the National Exploration Undercover School (NEXUS) and an economic geology lecturer and research fellow at the University of Adelaide. Formerly working as a senior exploration geologist with Mount Isa Mines, Richard has over 20 years' experience spanning the industry-academia boundary and is involved with national initiatives relating to both mineral exploration and geoscience/STEM education.



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Genna McDonagh, AIG NGG (NextGenGeos) group

Genna is a Minerals Exploration geologist who has a passion about raising awareness of the importance of geoscience in the wider sphere.



Dr Haydon Mort, MD Geologize

Haydon is a geologist with 15 years of research experience. He is also the founder and CEO of Geologize Ltd, a British-based company that seeks to train a generation of Earth Scientists to communicate powerfully with the general public, something he sees as essential in reinvigorating the talent pipeline and moving towards net zero. Widely endorsed, his company's training program, Practical Geocommunication, has been met by worldwide acclaim.



Alanis Olesch-Byrne

Alanis is a PhD candidate at James Cook University looking at the structural controls that act as fluid conduits for ore forming fluids in the formation of Australia's Rare Earth Elements deposits. Alanis loves talking about all things geology with the general public and motivating future generations of earth scientists.



Craig Pereira

Craig is a geoscience graduate from The University of Queensland, where he completed his degree in 2016. Craig has been working as a Project Exploration Geologist with a global mining and exploration company after starting off in underground mining before moving to exploration. He has worked across a range of commodities from iron ore, lithium, gold and most recently copper which has led Craig to work across many jurisdictions in Australia and Europe.

Date and time: Thursday 31 March 14:00 – 15:00 New Zealand date and time

Further information: email Dale Sims at president@aig.org.au



Dale Sims – Facilitator

Dale Sims is the current President of the Australian Institute of Geoscientists. He is a Mining and Resource Geologists with over 35 years of industry experience.
